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Summit opening amid dissension

STEVE RODAN CAIRO

AT least 10 heads of state are expected to arrive here today to attend the first Arab League summit in six years, a pariey that Syria hopes will end with a decision to end normalization with Israel and reinstitute the Arab boycott.

But Arab diplomatic sources said the absence of as many as nine heads of state reflects the deep divisions over the priorities of the summit. Egypt and Syria. they said, are trying to focus the gathering on the new government of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and its closening of relations with Turkey.

The pro-government Egyptian dailies have stepped up their attacks on Israel, calling for a united Arab front against the Netanyahu government. The Al-Ahram daily yesterday said Arab leaders must recognize that, "The future of the Arab nation will be shaken unless the Arab leaders promptly put the Arab home in order to ensure a consensus vis-avis Israel fanaticism and arro-

An Egyptian official said Egypt, Syria, and Saudi Arabia agreed on a draft resolution linking Israeli-Arab normalization to progress in the peace talks.

But Jordan and the Gulf states, backed by the US, want a discussion on state-sponsored terrorism. This includes alleged Syrian support of terrorists operating in Jordan, as well as unrest in the Gulf directed by Damascus's non-Arab ally, Iran. (Story, Page 3)

"We have to have a strategy setting out as a priority that a brother must protect a brother and not have to protect himself from him," said Jordanian Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti.

So far, the heads of Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Saudi Arabia and those of most of the Gulf states have informed Egypt they will not attend the summit. Iraq was not invited.

The first head of state to arrive was the emir of Bahrain, who was greeted by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and a military



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak escorts the emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Bin Suleiman Khalifa, down the red carpet upon his arrival in Cairo for tomorrow's Arab summit.

band playing a waltz by Strauss.

Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdel-Meguid said the summit hopes to send a message the Arabs will not accept just any solution, but one that is based on land for peace.

"Israel should understand that it is not doing us any favors by accepting a peace settlement." Abdel-Megnid fold the Egyptian weekly Al-Mussawar.

Syria and Egypt are also trying to place the Turkish-Israeli military cooperation high on the summit's agends. The Turks have been holding naval maneuvers in the eastern Mediterranean.

US seeks to soften outcome of Arab summit

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher sent private messages to Arab leaders this week, urging them to moderate the outcome of the Cairo summit, so as to give the Netanyahu government a chance to continue the peace process, US officials said.

Christopher assured Arab leaders that he will be seeking to advance the peace process at meetings with Prime Minister Binvamin Netanyahu and Arab leaders on his visit to the region next week.

Israel is indeed hoping the US will soften the impact of the summit and make sure the hardline Syrian position does not prevail, whereby Arab normalization with Israel would be frozen.

Arab analysts say the pivotal players in shaping the outcome of the summit will likely be Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

Just as the US is concerned about the outcome of the summit, it is also concerned that the Netanyahu government maintain DAVID MAKOVSKY

a dialogue with the Palestinians Christopher is expected to focus on this issue during his visit here on Tuesday.

"There needs to be a dialogue with the Palestinians, and the sooner the better. If Israel does not deal with the Palestinian track, things can go bad. It needs to be handled carefully," a key US official said.

Christopher will also be prepar-ing Netanyahu's visit to the White House, which has been set for Tuesday, July 9. Congressional leaders have invited the prime minister to address a joint session of Congress the following day.

Meanwhile, Netanyahu indicated yesterday that Israel would honor international agreements, but seemed to hint that implementation of Osio 2 will be contingent upon reciprocal moves by the Palestinians.

Arab officials have criticized the government guidelines

issued this week for including an expectation the PA would live up to its commitments, while not mentioning Israel's commit-

Moreover, there was no mention of Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat in Netanyahu's Knesset remarks on Monday, while other Arab leaders were mentioned.

The Palestinians want to make sure Israel adheres to the Oslo 2 accord in general and, specifically, carry out the IDF withdrawal from Hebron that had been scheduled for March 28.

Israel, meanwhile, wants the Palestinians to fulfill security commitments, such as the extradition of terror suspects.

So far, Netanyahu has said only that he is studying the Hebron

Speaking to the annual meeting of the World Zionist Organization yesterday, Netanyahu said, "Our position is that governments (Continued on Page 20)

'IDF will redeploy in Hebron'

THE Netanyahu government will have the IDF redeploy in Hebron, a senior security source said yes-

terday. He said the civil government headquarters in the center of the city, which symbolizes the occupation to local residents, would be vacated within several weeks. At the same time, the IDF forces protecting Jewish settlers in the city are to be reinforced.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai met yesterday with **EVELYN GORDON and** Jerusalem Post Staff

security officials to discuss redeployment in Hebron. He is to visit the city next week.

Meanwhile, Jewish residents of Hebron may be willing to accept a compromise whereby the city would become part of Area B - with the IDF having overriding security authority, but with the Palestinians having autonomy in other areas, including their own

Attorney Elyakim Ha'etzni, who has traditionally been associated with the far right of the settlement movement, raised the compromise idea in an interview with Israel Radio yesterday.

The army, he said, must be in charge of security in the city, but at the same time, it does not particularly want the job of collecting Palestinian taxes or chasing Palestinian

stinian drug dealers. (Continued on Page 20)

Yeltsin sacks three top Kremlin hardliners

MOSCOW (Reuter) - President Boris Yeltsin, in a dramatic move following a bizarre overnight incident billed by liberals as an attempted coup, yesterday swept three top hawks out of the Kremlin, Russian news agencies

The three heads to roll were those of First Deputy Prime Oleg Soskovets, personal bodyguard Minister Yeltsin's Alexander Korzhakov, and state security chief Mikhail Barsukov. The dismissals, coupled with the sacking on Tuesday of hardline defense minister Pavel Grachev, meant that Yeltsin has

the top hawks in his entourage. All four had been seen as pushing Yeltsin to take a hard line on many issues, especially pursuing the military crackdown in Chechnya, in which more than 30,000 people have been killed.

effectively completed a purge of

The sackings yesterday, following a session of Russia's Security Council chaired by Yeltsin, climaxed a night of drama in which two of Yelisin's campaign workers were arrested and interrogated for 11 hours before being released.

Former economic reform chief Anatoly Chubais and NTV commercial television said the arrests of Sergei Lisovsky and Arkady (Continued on Page 20)

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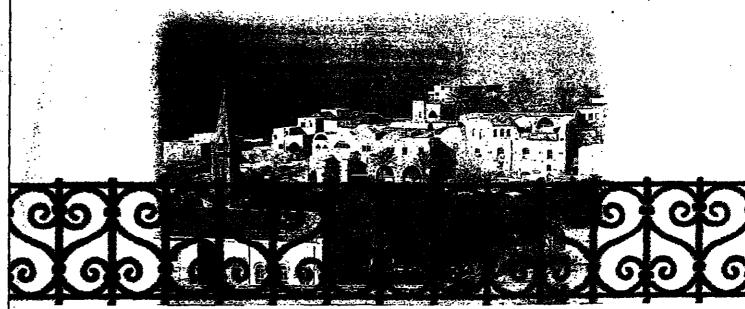
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Peres: I'll lead Labor until primaries Ne'eman to supervise

FORMER prime minister Shimon Peres said yesterday that he will not resign as head of the Labor Party at this stage and will try to rehabilitate the party until its leadership primary, which he suggested holding in a year's time.

In his appearance before Labor's political bureau, which met to discuss the election results. Peres suggested setting up a shadow cabinet based on the British concept, to provide an alternative to the government and be a fighting opposition.

In a soul-searching speech analyzing the election, Peres stressed his responsibility, but noted that the Hamas and Islamic Jihad played a role in determining the election results.

He also admitted that he "was too influenced by the public opinion polls, which until almost the last day gave us a four to five percent advantage and dictated our behavior during the campaign. But on the last day there emerged

MICHAL YUDELMAN

apparently reference to Habad and the settlers. Peres said "I may have lost the elections, but I did not lose the cause. Personally, from Dimona [where he founded the Nuclear Research Center] to Oslo, I have nothing to regret. We created a revolution which the nation will never forget. Perhaps I lost the elections because at times

I went too far, too fast." Peres revealed that his decision to advance the elections followed the realization that peace with Syria would not be achieved by the end of the year. "Both the Americans and the Syrians said, let's finish the negotiations and reach an agreement by November, and I agreed to wait until then before holding the elections. I sent a message to Syrian President Hafez Assad and said, 'if you real-" ly want to do it, you must come to the negotiations yourself. Let me know that you're serious and will meet me every week if necessary

Assad agreed to meet him, butwould not give a date, Peres said. "I knew then it would be a terrible mistake to enter an election campaign without knowing whether there is a partner or a plan."

Peres said he was never one to run away from responsibility and will therefore stay at Labor's helm to pull the party together.

"I don't blame anyone and demand nothing from anybody. It is clear to me that we need to change the party structure. After the results of the elections, we cannot return to what has been,"

Labor's leadership decided to appoint former Knesset speaker Shevah Weiss to head a committee charged with analyzing the election results and drawing the necessary conclusions. Another team headed by reserve general Menahem Einan will be in charge of the structural changes in the



Shimon Peres spends a thoughtful moment at yesterday's Labor political bureau meeting in Tel Aviv, at which he announced he intends to remain chairman of the party for the coming year.

Histadrut calls for token strike against privatization

MICHAL YUDELMAN

THE Histadrut yesterday fired the opening shot in its battle against the new government's privatiza-tion and budget cutback plans, which will likely lead to massive dismissals in the public sector, and declared a one-hour strike in 10 days' time.

At a meeting of labor union leaders representing tens of thousands of workers, Histadrut Chairman MK Amir Peretz warned Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu that "we take everything he says very seriously and will not sit around waiting to see where the bombs he throws in the

Peretz called on the unions to prepare to confront the government, beginning with its inten-tions to privatize the Israel Broadcasting Authority.

Bank Leumi union chairman Louis Roth said "we are their cannon fodder; we are the raw material on whose backs they want to create an economy like this, or an economy like that. There is nothing easier than selling something which doesn't belong to you."

Peretz called on Netanyahu to

instruct the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, Avigdor servant and not meddle in government policy.

Peretz was referring to Lieberman's statement that he intends to speed up the privatiza-tion of the IBA, which he called "a propaganda instrument of Labor." Lieberman also said he would move to replace IBA director-general Mordechai Kirschenbaum even before privatizing the authority.

Lieberman was quoted in Ma ariv yesterday as saying, "we are not pleased with the political role played by the IBA during the elections. It was mobilized journalism. The broadcasters called to. support Shimon Peres. The radio in Arabic called on people to go to the polis."

Kirschenbaum as saying, in a lec-ture to Friends of the Weizmann Institute in Tel Aviv "the attack on us from [Communications Minister] Limor Livnat and others proved they don't understand the work of the IBA, which does not serve the government, but only reports on its actions."

În a sharp reaction to Lieberman's statement, Peretz said "it's first-class impertinence that a director of a ministry, who is a clerk, should act as though he ieberman, to bekave, like a civil ... determines ... policy. ... I... think ervant and not meddle in govern-... Netanyahu should shut Lieberman up as soon as possible."

creation of ministry for Sharon

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday appointed Justice Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman to deal with creating a new national infrastructure ministry for MK Ariel Sharon.

Sharon, who had already spoken to Ne'eman about the portfolio. yesterday sent him a brief on how the new ministry should be strucnired and how it should operate.

However, it is still unclear whether the ministers who must yield departments from their newly won ministries, so these may be stitched together to form a new super-ministry for Sharon, will be willing to do so.

The ministry Sharon envisions would have "contributions" from the Agriculture, Housing, Energy, and Transport ministries. However, Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan (Tsomet), Transport and Energy Minister Yitzhak Levy (National Religious Party), and soon-to-be-appointed deputy

housing minister Meir Porush have all vehemently refused to make any concessions and threatened to leave the government should their dominions be pared.

What seems certain is that the problem will not be resolved in a few days, as some around Netanyahu continue optimistically to claim.

A source close to Netanyahu argued yesterday that part of the blame for the sticky situation must be ascribed to "Sharon himself, because he did not take the Housing portfolio when it was offered him. He should have realized that there was nothing better to be had."

Some in the Likud charge that Netanyahu's right-hand man, Avigdor Lieberman, maneuvered things in such a way as to keep Sharon out, in part due to the very fact that he is so popular in the Liked and therefore a possible rival and/or troublemaker.

Netanyahu hailed at Habad rally

THOUSANDS greeted Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu with cheers and standing ovations last night at a rally held by the Habad movement, marking both the second yahrzeit of Lubavitcher Rebbe Menachem Mendel Schneerson and Netanyahu's electoral victory.

Foreign Minister David Levy, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai, Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush, and other MKs also attended the event, held at the Yad Eliahu arena in Tel

In his address, Netanyahu recalled a meeting he had with the rebbe eight years ago, in which, he said, the rebbe told him: "You will encounter many obstacles, but with the help of faith in the people of Israel, the Land of Israel, and love of fellow Jews, you will overcome the obstacles."

Yitzhak Cohen-Aharonov, the chairman of Habad Youth, called on Netanyahu not to pull out of Hebron or the Golan Heights.

CORRECTION Russia has postponed its decision whether to allow the Jewish Agency to continue operating in its territory and not as printed in the AP report yesterday.

Winning numbers and cards In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 155234 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 466227 won a car.

Tickets numbered 803420, 114548, 755504, 170508, 552067, 114548, 755504, 171508, 552067, 649296, 293131 and 397620 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 37747, 99199, 98524, 71915, 53172, 74155, 92537, 91160, 75565, 46203, 29830 67784, 14837, 06503, and 71846, prop. 14837, 06501 and 71846 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 002, 590, 849, and 848 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 02, 46, 31, 20 won NIS 30. Tickets ending in 38

and 05 won NIS 20. Tickets ending in 2 and 7 won

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the ace of spades, ace of hearts, eight of diamonds, and nine of clubs.

Labor to probe possible election fraud

LABOR leaders announced yesterday they intend to examine the records of all 6,714 polling stations in last month's elections to

check for evidence of voting fraud. The announcement made by Knesset members Nissim Zvilli, Moshe Shahal, and Ra'anan Cohen at Labor's political bureau meeting yesterday, followed the party's filing suit in Jerusalem District Court on Wednesday, asking to cancel the election results on the basis of alleged forgery found in a check of

dozens of polling stations. Labor's Knesset faction chairman Ra'anan Cohen, who is also deputy chairman of the Central

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MICHAL YUDELMAN

Elections Committee, said that in a sample audit he conducted in dozens of polling boxes, he dis-covered irregularities and forgeries. This requires that all the poll boxes be reexamined, he said.

If the findings in the sample polls repeat themselves throughout the country, these cases of forgery may have affected the election results, given the slim margin of Binyamin Netanyahu's victory over Shimon Peres, Cohen said.

Cohen said that in the days after the elections, he received reports from several polling stations

The Distance Learning

around the country that the number of ballots cast was larger than the number of voters registered for those polling stations.

The sample check he conducted in some 100 polling stations revealed that ballots had been cast in the name of voters who were abroad on election day, or who are deceased. In some places the final vote count was forged and in many others, the number of people registered as having voted did not correspond to the number of ballots actually cast there. Cohen said that in Vered Yeriho

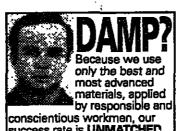
104 people voted, while only 101 eligible voters are registered there. In Kfar Darom 86 people voted, while only 85 are registered as eligible voters. In Mishmar Ayalon, 302 ballots were cast, though there are only 274 eligible voters and in Netzarim there were 76 ballots, while there were only 70 eligible

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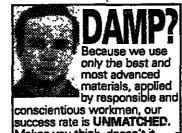
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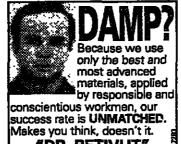
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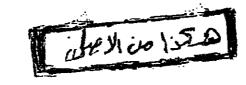
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Syria, Jordan clash on eve of summit

DAMASCUS (Reuter) - Syria yesterday accused Jordan of trying to prevent this weekend's Arab summit from achieving its main goal of confronting Israel's new hardline leaders. It also criticized the US for asking Arab leaders not to set preconditions on negotiations with Israel.

Several Jordanian officials have said they wanted the issue of terrorism to be part of the summit's agenda, after Amman recently accused Damascus of backing some abortive attacks in Jordan. But Syria's official press strongly rejected the charges and challenged Jordan to produce evidence backing its claim. Jordanian Poreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti demanded that Arab leaders "discuss

the issue of combating terrorism." He also said that if Syria criticized Jordan for ties with Israel, he would display a list of all the terror attacks committed by Syria against Jordan.

The official daily Tishreen said changing the

agenda would divert Arab leaders from their main goal, which is to work out a unified response to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's hardline approach to Middle East

While Arabs prepared to hold a summit in Cairo to revive Arab solidarity and counter the challenges posed by Israel's new anti-peace government, we hear more voices from Jordan repeating Israel's accusations of Syrian involvement in terrorism," the newspaper said. Syria also wants Arab leaders to reconsider normalization with Israel, its ambassador to

Arab officials said Syria would go further at the summit and propose the Arabs decide to freeze any further cooperation with Israel. "The Arabs should not give the occupier any privileges at the expense of the victim," Syrian

Ambassador Issa Darwich told Reuters in an interview as the first beads of state arrived.

The idea of normalization with Israel as a confidence-building measure was premature ... The normalization process should be a product of the peace process."

Darwish said the summit would ask the US and Russia - the co-sponsors of the peace process - the international community and the Security Council to support Syria in pressuring Israel for peace based on a withdrawal from occupied Arab territory.

This Arab summit is not to declare war and obstruct peace, but to demonstrate our unchanging fundamental positions for a just and comprehensive peace," Darwish said.

"But it is our duty - ail of us who accepted peace as a strategic option - to reconsider the position of the other party and to ask the sponsors of the peace process and the Security Council to oblige Israel to honor its commitments, otherwise there will be tension in the region which is not beneficial for anybody."

Iran reported offering

DOUGLAS DAVIS

JON IMMANUEL

of the PA's Israel desk, denied

The timing, immediately after

the formation of the new gov-

ernment and just before the

Arab summit, is especially useful to PA President Yasser

Arafat. He needs to downplay

the threat of terrorism to win

wide support for a resolution

dismissing Israel's stated secu-

rity concerns as an evasion of

Arafat wants strong Arab

backing to show Binyamin

Netanyabu that "he has other alternative," said his adviser Dr. Ahmed Tibi.

The leastet had little of the

pejorative terminology usually associated with Kassam leaflets,

except its description of "Zionist terrorism" against

Hamas, and the demands did not go beyond the general

The statement "emphasizes

the important role of the PA as a

mediator between Hamas and

the Israeli government," imply-ing that only the PA is empow-ered to negotiate with Israel.

Since the first period of the

renewable cease-fire was not

stated, it left the matter open to

mediation by the PA, thus open-

and Hamas. "We will not place

any obstacle in the path of

reaching a suitable period for the proposed truce," it said.

In exchange, the statement called on the PA to "open chan-

nels to let the Islamic

Movement actively and power-

fully participate in Palestinian

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Hamas leaflet

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offers cease-fire

IZZADIN Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas, yesterday offered the new government a cease-fire if it agreed to end the closure of the territories, release Hamas prisoners, and stop pursuing Kassam activists.

A statement, issued in Gaza, said Kassam offered "to freeze all its military activity against Israel for a predetermined period that can be renewed according to our specific conditions."
It described the offer as "a

golden opportunity ... to avoid the pain of corpses and explosion, or would [Israel] be so foolish as to bring the entire area to war and bloody con-

Previously, Hamas has unofficially offered a total, renewable cease-fire only in return for a full withdrawal to the 1967 bor-

But the offer contains many holes. It offers a cease-fire, but also reserves the right to resume attacks as Kassam sees fit "for any crime conducted by the Israeli military or settlers or any violation of the above con-

The leaflet might not be authentic and, even if it is, Kassam may be divided into name today may not represent groups like "the Yihya Ayyash cells," which took responsibility for the February-March suicide

bombings.

Nevertheless, several local Hamas leaders have spoken out against suicide attacks. No leadets contradicting this one appeared yesterday, as they did in March after Kassam offered a three-month cease-fire at the urging of the Palestinian Authority.

This statement also appeared to be brokered by the PA, though Sufian Abu Zaide, head

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to sign pact with Syria

LONDON

IRAN has offered to conclude a formal pact with Syria to offset the military agreement between Turkey and Israel, it was revealed

The influential Arabic-language daily al-Hayat reported that the disclosure came from "foreign diplomatic sources," but The Jerusalem Post has learned that Iranian officials leaked the information to selected media with Syria's blessing.

Relations between Syria and Turkey have deteriorated sharply in recent months, with each side alleging the other has been conducting military build-ups on their common border. The deterioration has been caused by:

 Syria's control of the Kurdish Workers' party (PKK), a far-left ferrorist group, which enjoys

extensive training and logistical support from Damascus particular-ly, but also from Teheran, for its military operations against Turkey. Syria's complaint that Turkey,

which controls the headwaters of

the Euphrates River, is reducing the flow of water to Syria, a downstream "client". · Syria's assertions that a military pact between Israel and Turkey - which allows Israel Air Force pilots to train in Turkish air-

space and use Turkish air bases constitutes a military threat to both Damascus and Teheran. Senior Middle East sources told the Post yesterday that the revelations of a formal Syrian-Iranian pact had far-reaching political -

and, possibly, strategic - implica-

(Continued on Page 20)

PA: Israel to allow Jews to pray on Temple Mount

BILL HUTMAN

THE government plans to allow Jewish worship on the Temple Mount, two senior-Palestinian Authority figures charged this week. Jerusalem's PA-appointed Mufti, Sheikh Akram Sabri, and the PA Minister for Religious Affairs, Hassan Tahboub, claimed a secret annex worship on the Mount They said the Mount is to have a weekly schedule for Jewish and Moslem worship, similar to the arrangement at the Machpela Cave in Hebron. They have reported this in the local Arabic press and to foreign

A senior Jerusalem municipal official said the accusation was unfounded. The official accused Sabri and Tahboub of trying to incite Moslems by spreading this allegation, and others, about Israel's plans in

Municipal officials have been in contact with the Wakf, the Moslem (Continued on Page 20)

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Hizbullah calls for 'intifada' in security zone

HIZBULLAH spiritual leader Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah is calling on residents of the security zone to stage an intifada" in the region, according

to Lebanese media reports. Lebanese newspapers and radio stations said Fadiallah made the call in a sermon earlier this week

"We know all about the pressure the Israelis put on the sons of the security zone, but the time has come to launch a well-planned and studied popular uprising - an intifada," Fadlallah was quoted as

"I underline the words wellplanned and studied. It has to be well planned because until now Israel has exploited the popular

Fadiallah, quite apart from his role as spiritual leader of Hizbullah, is recognized in the Lebanese and even the international Moslem Shi'ite community as a leading scholar and cleric,

DAVID RUDGE

and his comments carry consider-

He reportedly made the "intifada" call while teaching the Koran. It was not clear from the media reports whether or not it was meant as a farwa (a religious edict).

In the past, Fadlallah has called on Shi'ite members of the South Lebanese Army to "repent and desert, or face the consequences of Hizbullah's long arm.

There have been no previous reports, however, of him urging Shi'ites, who compose around 65 percent of the nearly 200,000 people in the region, to launch an intifada.

Lebanese observers noted that if Fadlallah's call was meant as a farwa it could have widespread repercussions. The call follows a recent wave of Hizbullah attacks in the zone, in which nine IDF soldiers were killed and 25

There have been unconfirmed reports of increased collaboration lately between some residents of the zone and Hizbullah.

In other news, a Lebanese man accused of working for the Mossad was sentenced to death by a Lebanese court Wednesday night for carrying out a 1994 blast that killed three people in a Beirut

suburb, Reuter reported. The military court on ruled in a retrial that Ahmad Hallak - who last year was sentenced in absentia to death for the blast - carried out the bombing on the orders of the Mossad.

Hallak, who fled to the security zone after the bombing, was snatched in February by Lebanese army intelligence agents, who drugged him and smuggled him out of the zone in the trunk of a

car, security sources have said. Under Lebanese law, people sentenced in absentia have the right to a retrial.



A worker cleans paint off a memorial plaque to Mordechai Gur, who led the paratroop brigade that captured Jerusalem's Old City in the Six Day War. The plaque, near the Lions Gate, was desecrated for the second time yesterday. It was first desecrated shortly after it was dedicated on Jerusalem Day, and on Tuesday was covered with bars and glass to prevent a recurrence.



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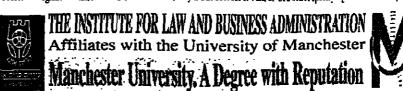
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The threatening summit

tended to be a show of Arab solidarity, a grand coalescence of the Arab world in the face of the unexpected rise to power of the Netanyahu government. It was supposed to close ranks, advertise the commonality of Arab interests, and present a common front against a common enemy.

But it may not work quite this way. There are too many rivalries, frictions, and conflicting ambitions among the participants to make the summit an unblemished spectacle. It may actually expose inter-Arab tensions the participants would rather keep hidden.

A particularly sore problem is the tension between Syria and Jordan. In addition to being a traditional Middle Eastern conflict between an aggressive large country and a vulnerable neighbor which it would like to swallow, the Jordan-Syria confrontation represents friction between the region's medieval tyrannies fearful of modernization and the few relatively progressive Arab states seeking democracy, openness, and peace.

That Jordan has become a prime target for Syrian-sponsored terrorism is hardly surprising. This is not the first time the Assad regime has used terrorist groups to punish Jordan for its conciliatory Israel policies. In the mid-Eighties, too, when Jordan was making overtures to Israel, the Syrians had terrorists attack Jordanian targets in Jordan and abroad, until the Jordanian government "got the hint."

Nor are Syria's designs a secret. Syrian tanks advanced on Jordan in 1970 and in 1980, and had it not been for Israel's threat to intervene they would not have stopped on the border. Damascus, after all, considers the land ruled by the Hashemite Kingdom part of Greater Syria.

This time Jordan managed to apprehend the terrorists Syria had sent there, reportedly to kill Israeli tourists, and it threatens to expose Syria's aggressive plots against Amman if the Hafez Assad regime uses the summit to attack Jordan for its peace policies.

If anything, the age-old antagonism is now more acute than ever, exacerbated by the Israel-Jordan peace and the strategic cooperation between Israel and Turkey. Iran, too, has contributed to the escalation of tensions by suggesting the forming of an Iran-Syria-Iraq axis to counter what it describes as an Israel-Jordan-Turkey

THE Arab summit this weekend was in- conspiracy to threaten Syria and Iran.

What Syria hopes to achieve this weekend is clear enough. Having failed to secure a total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan and Lebanon in exchange for the flimsy non-belligerence agreement it was willing to offer, Damascus wants to revert to the bellicosity and warmongering which characterized Arab policies in pre-Madrid days.

Unfortunately, it seems to have Egypt, which signed a peace treaty with Israel 17 years ago, on its side. Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa, who has been conducting an unrestrained campaign against Israel for almost two years, now sounds no different from the official Syrian press.

In concrete terms, the summit may defy the Oslo agreements and pass a resolution recognizing a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital, and perhaps even agree to a Syrian proposal to stop the gradual normalization of relations with Israel and the effective suspension of the Arab boycott that a few Arab states have begun to effect. The Syrians may also persuade the participants to call specifically for an Israeli withdrawal to the June 4, 1967 lines.

The summit thus threatens to be a dismaying reminder that the Middle East is hardly a brave new world. Alliances, power blocs, and deadly internal and external conflicts still abound in it.

Perhaps the most striking example of its malaise is Egypt. Although it is the undisputed leader of the Arab nations of the Middle East, it has been unwilling to normalize its relations with Israel.

Privately, Egyptians rationalize this reluctance by pointing to the militant forces within Egypt, which must be placated by the regime. But such explanations only point to the intrinsic, perhaps insoluble problem of the Arab world. Its ruling strata may want peace with Israel. But the Islamist passion sweeping Arab lands from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean make any real commitment to peace with Israel at best fragile, at worst treacherous.

The Arab regimes may want to intimidate the new government with the summit's dubious show of unity. What they have done instead is remind Israel that it had better be more careful in proceeding with what is generally (and often woefully inaccurately) known as the peace



The opportunity Bibi missed

SENIOR officials in Damascus have warned the Lebanese government against separate negotiations with Israel and have threatened anyone who attempts to disrupt Syrian-Lebanese unity, according to the London-based Al-Hayyat.

This Syrian threat seems to indicate that Lebanon is leaning toward direct talks with Israel, without a Syrian role in them.

What has changed in Beirut? Israel's dead-end negotiations with Syria have almost certainly had a sobering effect. The Lebanese establishment has just possibly begun to understand that linking a settlement in Lebanon to Israeli-Syrian negotiations is not in its interests. Lebanon's national interest - Israel's withdrawal to the international border - takes a back seat to Syria's need, which is

marking time.
President Assad, while carefully preserving quiet on his own bor-der with Israel, exposed Lebanon to Operations Accountability and Grapes of Wrath and allowed the flow of Iranian arms to Hizbullah. blocking Lebanese plans for economic reconstruction.

This week, with the world media focused on him, Prime Minister Netanyahu missed a golden opportunity to signal Beirut about an Israeli change of direction on Lebanon.

While there would have been no immediate response from the Lebanese government - Lebanese politicians cannot risk a confrontation with Syria - such a signal from Jerusalem would have: offered them an alternative to the dead end they now, find themMOSHE ZAK

selves stuck in. Our previous government, ever eager to curry favor with Syria, agreed to link the question of Lebanon to the framework of negotiations with Assad. It recognized Syria's position in Lebanon, arguing that it would be impossible to pacify the Israel-Lebanon border without first signing an agreement with Syria. But it has become obvious that Syria's pres-

ence in Lebanon has only made things more difficult. Let's be clear. Syria isn't intergering Assad's military rule in Lebanon.

In the short term, however, Hizbullah is helping Assad with the provocations of Israel that are his secret weapon vis-a-vis the Americans and the Israelis.

IN THE 1970s, Syria intervened when the Palestinian organizations threatened the Lebanese regime, even cooperating indirect-

ly with Israel when necessary.

But Syria won't cooperate with Israel this time. It will try to sabo-

When he presented his government to the Knesset this week, he should have offered Lebanon a real peace proposal

ested in a peace with Israel. It has shown this by placing obstacles in the path of the monitoring committee slated to oversee the understandings following Operation Grapes of Wrath.

More conclusive evidence comes from the fact that while US Secretary of State Christopher was in Assad's palace in Damascus discussing ways to defuse the tension in southern Lebanon, shipments of Iranian arms were arriving at Damascus airport en route to Hizbullah for use against the

It is clearly in Syria's long-term interests to restrain Hizbullah. Eventually the organization willthrow off Syrian control, endan-

tage any Lebanese attempt to reach a settlement, just as it did in 1983 after the signing of the abortive peace treaty between Israel and Lebanon.

his routine call for peace to Syria, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia when he presented his government to the Knesset this week. While the Knesset isn't the ideal place to go into the details of a

done well to offer Lebanon a real

peace proposal, something beyond

said something like this.

Still, Netanyahu might have

peace plan, Netanyahu could have

"I will strive for national consensus on relations with Lebanon, because Israel is interested in pre-

serving Lebanon's sovereignty

Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on the formulation of the peace plan. This won't be any hasty escape from booby traps and Sagger missiles; nor will it mean abandoning the South Lebanon Army, which has fought alongside the IDF protecting our northern

and territorial integrity.
"I will also consult the Knesset

Even if such a declaration from the new prime minister didn't cause any immediate breakthrough, the message would have got home that Israel wants to advance the peace process, not necessarily using Shimon Peres's method of a "simultaneous advance on a broad front," but step by step.
Israel's 1949 cease-fire agree-

ments with its neighbors weren't all signed on the same day; nor were they arranged in parallel. Lebanon came after Egypt, four months before Syria. The same is true of disengagement agreements and peace treaties with our neighbors.

Friends and foes are eagerly awaiting the new government's first move in the peace process. But for some reason it is responding to these expectations in Hebron, not Marjayoun.

Israel shouldn't be fearful of receiving an initial no from the Lebanese to any peace offer it might make. After all, the alternative - negotiations via Syria - has been tried, to no avail.

A new initiative has, however, not been tried; and there is a chance it could strike a chord in

The writer, a veteran journalist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE REAL PRICE OF PEACE

mean a peace in which Israel will

withdraw to the 1967 borders and

that a Palestinian state would be

created with part of Jerusalem as its

capital. (That would still be no more

than 18 percent of Mandatory Pales-

tine, while Israel would retain the

other 82 percent.) The editorial fur-

ther notes that Syria's price for

peace is complete withdrawal from

facts. That being the case, some

leaders on the right state openly that

they prefer not to pay such a price,

and would rather stay in a situation

of permanent conflict with the Arab

world and the Palestinians. These

people deserve respect for their hon-

esty. Netanyahu is not one of them:

having had elections to win he

promised the electorate that he could

get peace at a dirt-cheap price and in this way managed to scrape up just a

bit more than 50 percent of the vot-

ers. Now that he won, he will have

to face up to reality - including the

real price of peace, as well as the

The editorial objected to Arab

threats of violence, not to agitation.

Surely Mr. Keller does not believe

Israel would threaten violence

against Egypt if its government changed. - Ed. J.P.

CONFUSING

STATEMENT

Sharon's innocence toward the late

prime minister Begin at the time of the Peace for Galilee operation

(June 14) creates incalculable con-

On the one hand, it is my belief

that Sharon saved the country during

the catastrophic Yom Kippur war,

by dint of knowledge and dedication

(compared to others, whom I con-

sider successful by dint of sheer luck

until truly tested). If Sharon did not

lie to Begin, I would like him as

defense minister. On the other hand,

it would mean that Ze'ev Binyamin

Begin is lying and this goes against my belief in his character.

created in my mind. Would that I

could know the truth. Why didn't

Begin speak then? Why are his son and Mr. Kadishai speaking now?

JACOB GHITTS, M.D.

A cognitive dissonance has been

fusion, at least in my heart.

Sir, - Mr. Kadishai's statement on

ADAM KELLER

price of its absence.

All of these are very well-known

the Golan.

Sir, - Your editorial of June 9, "Negotiating under threat," attributes the extreme agitation in the Arab world to the "dictatorial regimes" and their supposed "nonunderstanding of democratic processes." In my view, this is beside the point. The thing is that Israel experienced a change of government which may entail a fundamental change of foreign policy and abandonment of basic principles vitally important to our neighbors: moreover, on at least one issue military redeployment in Hebron the prime minister-elect contemplates breaking an explicit Israeli treaty obligation.

Many of the Arab leaders have considerable stakes in the success of the peace process; certainly, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat staked upon it his political survival, and quite possibly his personal survival as well. It would have been very surprising had the Arab world's leadership reacted otherwise than it did, and whether the regimes are democratic or not is irrelevant to this issue. Israel would certainly have had a similar reaction - and rightly so - had Hamas won the Palestinian elections, or had a change of government occurred in Egypt or Jordan. It is up to Binyamin Netanyahu to reassure them - if he can. Your editorial notes that, when

the Palestinians talk of peace, they

ARAB NAMES

Sir. - In an article of June 7 which mentioned the Qatari foreign minister, you have perhaps inadvertently opened the door to a new level of publishing economy.

The gentleman was first de-

scribed as "Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabr al-Thani," then later referred to as "Thani," Please note that "al-Thani" means "The Second." In the same way, you might refer to the present Queen of England as "Second" or even "II", thus saving much printer's ink and letting much timber remain standing.

The only name that belongs to the minister is "Hamad." "Jassim" and "Jabr" are the names of his father and grandfather respectively, apparently Jabr bore the same names as his father; he was the second of the name. The only way to shorten the minister's name in reportage is "Hamad," for that is the only name STAN GOODMAN

Kiryat Tivon.

THE RELIGIOUS STATUS QUO Sir, - There is a status-quo agreement between the state and the reli-

gious community that goes back to the founding of the state. Our society is today involved in an intensive debate whether the new government should be guided by the status quo of 1992 or of 1996. The fact that they are different is evidence that changes in the status quo were introduced (unilaterally) by the previous government. Since the religious community did not consent, these changes were a violation of the status quo. To continue to adhere to the 1996 status quo (as the secular parties insist) means to continue to vio-

late the old one. The claim that we can create a new status quo, de facto, eliminates the very meaning of the concept. If, as the secular claim, the status quo can be amended unilaterally, than the ultra-Orthodox can rightfully introduce any change they want and claim that they are establishing the status quo for 1997. In short we are again witnessing the phenomenon of the left claiming the ability to do or say whatever they wish while denying that ability to anyone else.

Jerusalem.

THE COVENANT

ZVI STONE

Sir, - As Mr. Louvish forces the issue (Letters, June 9), I wish to refute his basic arguments about the Palestinian National Covenant, for that is what they are: arguments and

wishful thinking, not facts. If the covenant was already obsolete, or caduq, as Francophile Arafat once said, why did he sign the September 9, 1993, letter to the late prime minister Rabin? If that 1993 letter nullified all its genocidal provisions, why did he hold a special PNC session, supposedly to cancel the covenant? And finally, if indeed that special PNC session stated that the covenant "is hereby amended." why did they need a special legal committee to convene at some future unspecified date to present a new covenant?

One more query: if Arafat decides that the Netanyahu government is not fulfilling the terms of Oslo, as Arafat views them, will he need to readopt the covenant or just simply reignite the intifada? YISRAEL MEDAD

HE direct election of the prime minister doesn't guarantee his control over his own government. It doesn't even guarantee his control over his own

This is the unavoidable conclusion from the crisis over the composition of the Neranyahu government. It is a lesson that will not be lost on the new prime minister. and it will undoubtedly influence the way future decisions are taken.

A popularly elected prime minister has a mandate from the people as a whole. This popular mandate is the source of his legitimacy. It does not, however, translate automatically into unchallenged leadership of his party - at least, not once victory at the polls has been secured.

Netanyahu was able to force the Likud central committee to accept his deals with David Levy and Rafael Eitan, despite the sacrifice this involved for the party faithful, who were pushed down the Likud's Knesset list to make room for the Gesher and Tsomet candidates. Only Benny Begin persisted

in solitary opposition. Now it's time for the pay-off. Netanyahu may have a majority of the popular vote behind him, but his own party isn't in the bag.

In this respect, direct election of the premier hasn't brought about any essential change. The late Yitzhak Rabin was

directly elected in Labor's primaries to lead the party to victory. He promised to lead, to navigate. Once the victory had been won, however, he was unable to secure

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

The imperial prime ministry

the election of his own choice to the post of party secretary-general. His win in the primaries didn't bring with it control of the central

party institutions. If Rabin and Shimon Peres hadn't learned to work together, direct primaries for the party leadership might today appear a somewhat ambiguous accomplishment

Direct election of the prime minister already does appear a somewhat ambiguous accomplishment. Under the law as originally proposed, the government appointed

tion as prime minister is secured.

FROM Netanyahu's point of view, no price is too high, because neither the party nor the cabinet is where the real action is.

His own party is in a minority in the government, even without taking into account the fact that he doesn't really control most of the Likud ministers. Clearly, the important decisions will not be made in the cabinet. At most, the cabinet will be the forum where decisions taken elsewhere will be

Netanyahu wants a Prime Minister's Office on the model of the White House

by the prime minister would not require Knesset confirmation, and could be turned out of office only by a no-confidence vote of 70 MKs. Netanyahu once declared that he regarded the elimination of the need for Knesset approval of the cabinet as the whole point of the proposed reform.

Although this isn't the reform that was in the event enacted into law, Netanyahu continues to act as though direct election of the premier can overcome all obstacles in the existing system. Hence, he has been prepared to pay any price - as in the pre-election deals with Levy and Eitan, and in the postelection deals with his coalition partners, as long as his own posi-

ratified.

There is a basic contradiction between the function of a cabinet in a parliamentary regime and its role in a presidential system. The cabinet is not even envisaged in the US Constitution; it is largely what the chief executive chooses to make of it. John F. Kennedy, for example, largely dispensed with cabinet meetings.

In the American presidential system, the president chooses the cabinet after the issues of party and national leadership have been resolved. In our hybrid system, the cabinet itself becomes a forum in which competition for leadership continues. All the more reason for Netanyahu to try to do without it.

His intention has been to build the Prime Minister's Office on the model of the White House.

His conception of the American system seems overly influenced by the imperial presidency of Richard Nixon, Hence, his initial intention to transfer control of the Treasury's Budget Division and of the Israel Broadcasting Authority to the Prime Minister's Office. His future director-general, Avigdor Lieberman, seems to envisage a White House that somehow resembles the Kremlin. Netanyahu's conception of the

office of the prime minister is that there is where real decision-making will rest, and not in the cabinet. Hence, the creation of a staff organization, manned by nonpoliticians loyal to him. Hence, the emphasis on a National Security Council in the Prime Minister's Office, which will override both the defense and foreign ministries and the cabinet as the forum for decision-making in those areas.

Predictably, Netanyahu's assistants will take the initial brunt of the inevitable frictions this staff organization will generate with cabinet ministers. But the prime minister cannot shield himself from the political realities.

Netanyahu will have to reconcile himself to the facts of life. He is in no real sense an American president. He still has far to go before he proves himself an effective Israeli prime minister.

The writer is a legal and political commentator.

POSTSCRIPT

TWO FAMILIES have agreed to end a feud that has claimed more than 80 lives during the past 30 years in Honduras.

A peace agreement between the Najera and Turcios families was signed in the public plaza of San Esteban. The families clashed for the first time in 1966 over political and land questions.

The shootouts were from horseback or car, and each family had several gunmen under hire at

The peace agreement was signed by family patriarchs Francisco Najera and Ramiro Turcios. A child from each family also will sign it as a promise not to renew the feud in future generations.

The accord was worked out

through the military, the Roman Catholic Church, the attorney general's office and the residents of San Esteban.

AFTER A 3-year-old boy in his underwear was seen "holding a can of beer and smoking a cigatette," the man taking care of him was charged with neglect.

The child, of Ridgeville, Indiana, was removed from the house after he told a county welfare worker: "Yeah, man. Smokin' cigarettes is cool, man." The boy also said he'd consumed up to three beers at a time.

Wayne Hamilton, 41, was charged with felony neglect of a dependent, which carries a possible three-year sentence.

"SOTHEBY'S TO sell ... The Ten Commandments Tablets." That announcement hit our desk with a resounding thump. Stop the press! Hold Page One!

It turns out that no, they weren't selling the real thing, which still hasn't been found. The anction house was hawking the Hollywood version of the tablets used in the promotion of the epic movie The Ten Commandments.

Sotheby's says in a news release that the tablets were consigned by a publicist for the picture. Made of fiberglass, "they are engraved in Pre-Canaznite, a language developed during the

Bronze Age." The tablets, expected to fetch \$50,000-70,000, will be auctioned in a sale of Hollywood and Rock 'n' Roll memorabilia

TALK ABOUT two left feet. Police in Hamilton, Ontario, found more than 1,000 shoes in a trash bin - all brand new, all Recboks. And all, except one, for the

left foot. A policeman said the shoes, sizes 9 through 11, include runners, hiking boots and sandals

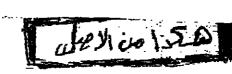
worth about \$120,000 retail. Officers suspect the shoes were stolen and discarded, but they haven't a clue why a thief

A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH

· / _ ...

wouldn't keep pairs. Perhaps some mischief was, er,

"We've heard all the jokes," the policeman said with a sigh.



Less cozy, more clear

PRIME Minister Netanyahu is preparing to visit the US. It should be clear to him that in light of the dangerous straits into which the Labor government has steered Israel, the policy he has promised to follow requires a thoroughgoing in-depth dialogue with President Clinton.

The US administration is aware of the fact that the PLO constitution - the Palestinian Covenant is based essentially, indeed nearly exclusively, on the proclaimed and oft-repeated purpose of destroying the Jewish state and usurping its territory.

Obviously no sane and selfrespecting government would enter into negotiations with an organization flaunting such a barbaric idea. True, the Rabin-Peres government did not refuse to negotiate with the PLO. But Rabin did demand the abrogation or the amendment of the document. Arafat obligingly promised this would be done; then lifted not a

From that day on, we have had not one sign of abhorrence of that document from Washington.

Throughout the following 33 months, during which the covenant was neither abolished nor "corrected" but kept as an inspiration to the Arab nation while Arafat made a series of excuses and postponements; while slice after slice of territory was promised and indeed handed over io the autonomy by the Labor govemment; and while an eloquent Arafat ever more defiantly proclaimed to his people the certainty of the declaration of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Would it not have been decent and proper of an "honest broker" to warn Israel against this rushing into so obvious a trap, let alone admonishing Arafat for maintaining the unspeakable covenant?

Should it not have occurred to the administration that the failure of the Palestinian Arab leadership to abolish or amend the document suggested very pointedly that its murderous purpose was so important that they were not prepared to. pay even lip service to the idea of its abandonment?

There is worse to follow. After waiting more than two years (and having surrendered to Arafat elements of Israel's security) prime minister Rabin issued an SHMUEL KATZ

Either within two months of convening the elected Palestinian Council you fulfill your undertaking regarding the covenant, or we halt the negotiations.

The only body entitled to make changes in the covenant, the Palestine National Council, duly met within the specified period. It did not abolish or amend the covenant. It announced that it would amend the clauses which violated the Oslo Agreement.

In effect it repeated, after nearly three years, no more than the original 1993 undertaking made by Arafat that the covenant remains in force until a "committee" decides which clauses are to be

As things stand now the US cannot be an honest broker in Israel's conflict with the Palestinians

amended

This slick declaration was at once welcomed by a Peres desperate for any sliver of "evidence" that Arafat had "changed;" then came the shocking declaration by the US State Department "confirming" Peres's enthusiastic revelation that the covenant had been amended.

Would it not have been more honorable and more expedient, for the sake of Mr. Clinton's own credibility at least, to tell the truth about Arafat - especially in light of the accumulating evidence from the PLO leader's calculated pronouncements that the practical plans for fulfillment of the covenant have already taken shape in his mind?

THE unpalatable truth underlying the American government's policy is that the US is not and carmot be an honest broker in the conflict.

On the crucial territorial issue its policy has always been just about identical with Arafat's first "phase:" Israel's withdrawal to the 1949 Armistice lines, recognized by every serious observer as a 'death trap" for Israel.

American policy makers have ultimative demand to Arafat: persuaded themselves that if Israel lished in English.

gives the Arabs the high ground in Judea, Samaria and the Golan, the Arabs will welcome these topographical advantages by foregoing the next phase of Israel's destruction; and an attenuated Israel is expected to accept this childish

prognosis.
Clinton came to office in 1992 after the Rabin-Peres-Aloni government was in place. It is doubtful whether he ever took an opportunity to discover the beliefs, principles and feelings of the fierce opposition to that government an opposition representing more than half the total population of Israel and a substantial majority in the Jewish community. He must certainly be interested in doing so

Netanyahu is duty-bound to forgo the traditional patterns of coziness that have characterized reports of past meetings at the White House. He must assume that it is entirely possible that the president, depending for information and assessments from a notoone-sided riously Department, is not adequately informed; and, difficult as it may seem, he must proffer Clinton a basic review in depth of US-Israel relations.

On this must rest his crucial message: that the Netanyahu government was not elected to ensure continuity with the philosophies of Peres and his colleagues; that its vision of the road to peace is quite different from theirs; that it rejects the idea that the peace process is to be seen as a succession of Israeli territorial surrenders culminating in a second Palestinian state (after Jordan). Autonomy is what was promised.

In the election campaign Netanyahu undertook to fulfill obligations - but only when the Palestinians recognizably replaced their covenant and put an end to their numerous violations in Jerusalem and elsewhere.

Those provisos will have to be met, and it is reasonable to expect active American support in their fulfillment, all in accordance with the high principles of American democracy.

That should make a good begin-ning for, perhaps, a new era in US-Israel relations.

The writer's biography of Ze'ev Jabotinsky has just been pub-

were licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture to be contaminated by

pesticides supposed to be used on

non-edible crops only.

In short, the Agriculture Ministry is no address for environ-

I have nothing against Rafael

Eitan as agriculture minister - in fact I think he might be very good

at the job. But he certainly should-

n't be environment minister as

well, and he shouldn't have been

allowed to try and fill two posi-

tions involving such a clear con-

I don't know what successes or

failures lie along the road for this

government. But I am certain that

one of its first acts has been a ter-

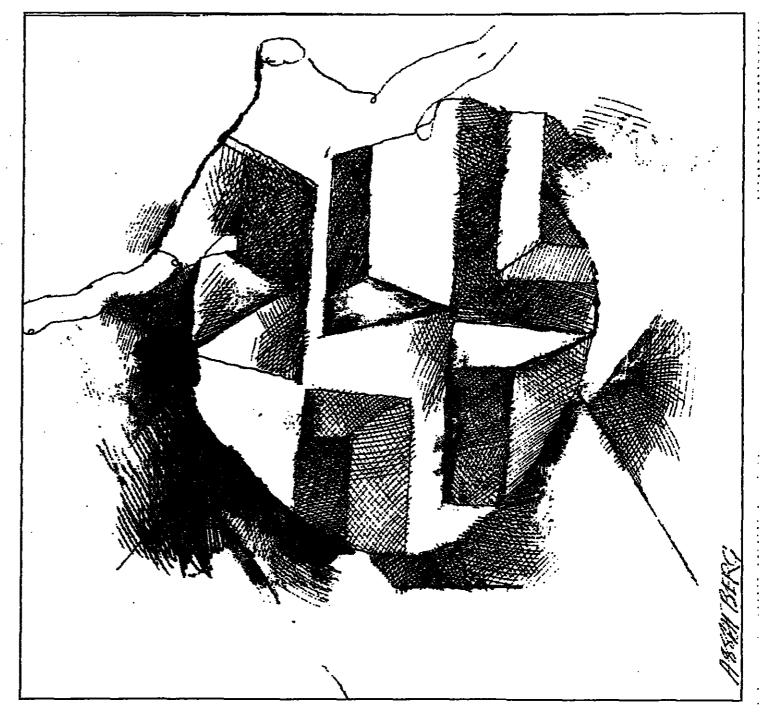
rible mistake, heralding potential

The writer contributes an envi-

ronment column to The Jerusalem

ment protection.

flict of interest



Hearts with many compartments

NE of the myths that Jews carried with them into the modern world is that of being a united people. We love, for example, to sing, "Behold how good and pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together," and we pray, . all of Israel are friends.

Bur prayer is prayer, and song is

And reality is reality. Despite our sense of shared historical fate and our emotional attachment to the myths of unity and friendship, the bitter truth is that the Jewish people is deeply divided. The arguments and disagreements among us are profound and divisive, sometimes vicious, occasionally deadly.

The election process our country has just gone through exposed deep-seated distrust and resentment between many groups in our society. One is viewed as the enemy of peace; the other as a threat to our historic destiny.

But all agree that fanaticism is the real threat to Jewish continuity. The right points to the secular hedonism of the left, the left to religious fun-

damentalism on the right.
Unformnately, the spirit of delegitimation did not disappear with the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. As the Bible shows repeatedly, Jews are a stiff-necked people who learn nothing from dra-

The splitting of the Red Sea with all its pageantry and miracles DAVID HARTMAN

We must teach our children

that differences of opinion

can coexist without conflict

was followed immediately by a religious uprising against Moses. The account of the golden calf is a telling commentary on the religious efficacy of hearing God's voice at Sinai and witnessing a revelation more compelling than

the prophetic visions of Ezekiel. The message of the biblical story is that there are no quick solutions to complex human prob-

cautioned against thinking that

administrative techniques could

create a society in which we can

listen to one another with respect,

where we can appreciate the importance of diversity and the complexity of our national and

Ours is an epochal period of his-

tory. Can we find a language of peace with the Palestinians and

our neighbors? In spite of the important breakthroughs made by

the Rabin and Peres government, the term "New Middle East" bet-

We badly need the wisdom to

solve spiritual dilemmas.

cultural destiny.

ter describes our hopes than our reality. Hatred and demonization have not been uprooted, let alone transformed.

EZEKIEL'S image that God will transform hearts of stone into hearts of flesh implies the futility of quick, overnight solutions to the dilemmas of human history. When not totally skeptical of lems. Abraham Joshua Heschel

the prophet realizes that the tasks

facing the political leader are not

easy. If change requires the inter-

vention of an all-powerful. all-

knowing Being to radically trans-

form human nature, what then

may we expect from human lead-

ers of limited and imperfect vision

It is important to pray for uni-

But the best advice to those who

versal friendship and peace.

and abilities?

We must teach our children that we can share a common text, yet understand its message differenthuman efforts to change history, ly; that differences of opinion can reflect genuine differences of interpretation and not necessarily

obstinacy or malice. Regarding the number of disagreements in the Talmud, the Tosefta advises: "Divide your heart into many rooms and compartments, so that different opinions may reside in different parts of your heart." In other words, conflicting voices can, and should, resound in one's soul.

peace with the Palestinian people

is: Cultivate enormous patience

together with the capacity to listen

to and tolerate different points of

More than ever, we need sober political discourse. Our education-

al philosophy must counteract the hysteria and illogicality of trying

to create consensus by delegiti-

mating differences of opinion.

Realizing this ideal is far from easy. For some it is unrealistic. Yet the educational process has to begin now, not tomorrow, not next year. We must look the dangers of internal enmity squarely in the face, act sanely, and be mature.

The writer heads the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem.

Minister with two masters

pedophile to totor your D'VORA BEN SHAUL V children or a known embezzler to handle your company's finances? Or perhaps a convicted perjurer would make an ideal character witness?

If all these sound absurd, they couldn't be more absurd than the decision to combine the Environment Ministry with the Agriculture Ministry.

The Agriculture Ministry and environmental protection have been natural enemies for as long as both have existed. And there's

no mystery why.

The aim of agriculture and the ministry devoted to it is to exploit natural resources such as land and water, the purpose of environmental protection is to preserve as

Putting Rafael Eitan in charge of agriculture and the environment is a scandal, a clear conflict of interest

much as possible in an unexploited condition.

I wonder if our new prime minister is aware that up until the time the Environment Ministry was created in the late 1980s the Ministry of Agriculture was in Ministry of Agriculture was in charge of environmental issues for the most part, controlling as it did the Nature Reserves Authority, and (before the advent of the authority) even the hunting

The express purpose of setting up the Nature Reserves Authority, the Environmental Protection Service, and, eventually, the Environment Ministry was chiefly to wrest some of this power away from agriculture, where the conflict of interest made it impossible for the same ministry to be objective enough to do what was best for both sides.

But now that the ministries have

where we started - only worse off, since the environment is in a sorry state, and agricultural practices as recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture have played a hefty role in making it so.

far from it.

between what was best for the overall environment and what was thought to be best for the farmers, one doesn't need too much imagination to see which way the deci-

For environmentalists wild animals are a treasure to be protected as much as possible, while to agriculturists they are a nuisance to be gotten rid of if one can.

How then will the minister of agriculture and environment baiance his opinions and rulings? Nature needs its own allotment

of water to survive - but who can ask a man trying to serve two mas-ters to decide which is the needier

UP UNTIL last year it was the Ministry of Agriculture that monitored our water supply; then it was taken over by the Environment

Why? Because water is too pre-cious to be treated lightly. The hundred or more wells in the coastal plain that have had to be sealed owing to pollution mostly got that way because of improper agricultural practices - practices that were endorsed by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Even now the ministry is supposed to be monitoring food to detect pesticides, and supervising the use of pesticides in agriculture. But the monitoring is insufficient and badly organized, and supervision of pesticide usage exists mostly on paper.

been combined we are back to

Not that any agriculture minister I have ever known had any intention of harming the environment;

But when it came to a choice

cause; more cotton, or a nature

Various organizations - especially the Environment Ministry have found food products that SOCIETY FOR EXCELLENCE THROUGH EDUCATION **ISRAEL ARTS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY**

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US to veto second term for UN secretarygeneral

WASHINGTON

THE United States yesterday threatened to use its veto if necessary to bar Boutros Boutros-Ghali from a second term as secretarygeneral of the United Nations. "I hope they will change their

Boutros-Ghali told reporters yesterday in Bonn before meeting President Roman Herzog of Germany, which like fellow European ally France has voiced strong support for the secretary-general.

In Washington, White House spokesman Mike McCurry, asked

about a second five-year term for the Egyptian diplomat, said: There is no possibility of that." Does that mean the United States will use its veto?

"Yes," McCurry said. "Boutros-Ghali has taken this decision in view of the strong encouragement he has received from member states." UN spokesman Ahmad Fawzi

The decision to oppose Boutros-Ghali pits the United States against stalwart opposition in the United Nations, likely including three of the five powers with Security Council vetoes. In addition to France, China and Russia probably would vote for Boutros-Ghali. The fifth veto belongs to Britain, which has been silent on the matter.

"After careful consideration.

President Clinton and the secretary of state have decided new leadership is needed in the United Nations," said State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns. Based on that assessment the United States will not support an extension of his term as secretary-

We respect him as a very dis-

He said Secretary of State Warren Christopher had conveyed

supports the secretary general. We recognize very confidently especially France," said ministry Administration

strictly a move to bring better management to the world organi-

tinguished international public servant, and we wish him well." Burns said. "We think the time has come for a new leader."

the decision to Boutros-Ghali. In Bonn, German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said the visiting secretary-general gave him the impression that "announcement of the Americans' rejection of a second candidacy" spurred him into making public his intention to run. In Paris, the French Foreign Ministry said yesterday that it

and cordially the relations that have always existed between the secretary-general and Europe, and spokesman Jacques Rummelhardt. spokesmen characterized the decision as

Leading Moroccan Jew shot and wounded by gunmen

RABAT, Morocco (Reuter) - A prominent Moroccan Jew was shot and wounded by two gunmen who attacked him as he left his office in Casablanca, a spokesman for the Jewish community said yesterday. Babi Azencot, a businessman and vice president of the Jewish com-

munity of Casablanca, was taken to hospital but was out of danger after Tuesday's attack, said Jewish community spokesman Henri Sitbon. The motive for the attack was not immediately known. Newspapers said two gunmen on a motrocycle opened fire on Azencot as he left his office in the financial city of Casablanca at 6:30 on Tuesday.

The official news agency MAP, which reported the attack yesterday, quoted members of Azencot's family as saying they did not believe the motive was religious but could have been a settling of scores by business rivals. Sitbon said Azencot, who is in his 50s, had no known enemies and was a "religious man who is highly regarded."

Our beloved

has passed away

In grief and mourning:

Her parents: Yael and Dan Pattir Her grandmother: Pnina Pahter

Her sisters: Shaily and Kobi Atsmon Sharon (Pattir) and **Moshe Cohen**

Her nephews

and niece Noam, Eyal, Adi and **Roni Atsmon**

The funeral will take place at the Yarkon cemetery today, Friday, June 21, 1996 at 12:00 noon

Shiva at the Pattir residence, 91 Haim Levanon St., Ramat Aviv, Tel Aviv

Our sincere condolences to **Dan Pattir** on the death of his daughter,

GILI

The Management of The Jerusalem Post

The unveiling of the memorial stone for Chazan SHAYA PINSKY 57

will take place on Wednesday, June 26, 1996 (9 Tamuz, 5756) at 5:00 p.m. at Har Hamenuhot, Gush Kaf Alef, Helka Bet For further details, call 02-818190

On the occasion of the thirtieth day after the passing of CECILE KRAMER >

We will meet at the graveside at Har Hamenuhot, Jerusalem on Tuesday, June 25, at 5:30 p.m.



Racegoers enjoy Ladies Day at Royal Ascot, England, yesterday. Cold and wet replaced sunglasses on the traditional day when the most colorful and outrageous fashions are worn. It is one of the

India will not sign nuclear test ban treaty NEW DELHI (Reuter) - India much as it did the nuclear Non-

announced yesterday that it would not sign a global test ban treaty on the grounds the accord would fail to disarm the nuclear powers.

"India cannot subscribe to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) in its present form." Foreign Secretary Salman Haider told a news conference in the capital of New Delhi.

But New Delhi said it would remain at negotiations in Geneva set to conclude next week, and would not try to block an agreement emerging from two and a half years of negotiations.

"There is no walkout in the talks," Haider said. "We are not in the position of trying to block this

All of India's main political parties oppose the current text of the treaty. They say it would not bind nuclear weapons states to a timetable for disarmament, leaving the threat of atomic war hanging over the world while barring India from developing its own nuclear weapons.

New Delhi views the CTBT

Proliferation Treaty, which it refused to sign last year.

India considers the treaties to be discriminatory, saying they legitimize the possession of nuclear weapons by the five declared nuclear powers: Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States.

India exploded a nuclear device in 1974 but says it has not built any nuclear weapons. Western experts believe both India and Pakistan, which have fought three wars since 1947, could quickly assemble the bomb.

Earlier this month, Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda's new government announced it would retain the longstanding option to build nuclear weapons until global disarmament was achieved.

"Our nuclear option is part of our national security," Haider said. "We will not accept any constraints on our option as long as other countries remain unwilling to accept the obligation to eliminate their option within a timebound framework.".

N. Irish police warn of more IRA bombs

BELFAST (Reuter) - Northern Ireland's police chief warning Britain yesterday that an IRA bombing campaign might escalate and trigger a backlash by pro-British Loyalist guerrillas across the island of Ireland.

"I believe that it is possible that there will be further [IRA] attacks on the British mainland. I also believe it is possible that there will be attacks in Northern Ireland," Chief Constable Sir Hugh

Annesley told a news conference. He was speaking hours after IRA guerrillas fighting British rule of Northern Ireland claimed responsibility for a weekend bomb attack in Manchester, England, which wounded 200 and blew holes in a fraught peace process.

Annesley, head of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, said that IRA violence in the province would spark tit-for-tat bombings by their Loyalist foes, battling to maintain British rule.

"If the provisionals were to

attack Northern Ireland there's no doubt whatsoever that there would be an immediate and without warning retaliatory action by Loyalist terrorists both within Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland," he said.

Loyalists, so-called because of their allegiance to the British crown, have stuck by a truce declared in October 1994, but the IRA went back to war in February with a London bomb attack that signaled the end of their truce.

Annesley's assessment was made as Britain and Ireland stepped up pressure on Sinn Fein to get its IRA guerrilla wing to call off a bombing campaign that was concentrated in London since February before being extended to

Irish Prime Minister John Bruton demanded an immediate IRA truce and signaled that Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams had not gone far enough to distance himself from the guerrillas.

US attorney-general asks for special probe of White House FBI files

WASHINGTON (AP) - US Attorney General Janet Reno moved yesterday to turn the investigation of White House requests for FBI background files over to Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr to avoid a conflict of interest.

In a brief written statement, Reno said Starr had agreed to accept the case if the special court which appointed him approves Reno's request.

"I have concluded it would constitute a conflict of interest for the Department of Justice itself to investigate the matter involving an interaction between the White House and the FBL a component of the Department of Justice,'

The White House welcomed the

decision, saying Reno made it on her own. Press secretary Mike McCurry said the move should silence Republican critics who

and FBI director Louis Freeh. "Hopefully, it will shut them up," he told reporters. McCurry said the White House would cooperate with Starr.

questioned the credibility of Reno

The affair involving some 400 files requested by the White House in the first two years of the Clinton administration, has erupted into a full-scale political clash with conversional bearings under with congressional hearings under way this week before a House of resentatives committee.

Congressional investigators are trying to determine whether the White House used some source of information other than a Secret Service list to generate its requests for FBI files.

Starr had advised Reno on Tuesday that he did not believe he had jurisdiction to continue his initial inquiry into the 1993-94 background files episode.

Reno then ordered the FBI to pick up where Starr had left off and complete the investigation. But Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole and Republicans in Congress immediately questioned whether the Justice Department and the FBI could conduct an independent investiga-

As a result, Reno announced yesterday that she would ask a special three-judge court, which appointed Starr in the Whitewater case, to expand his jurisdiction.

Accused Nazi abruptly flees US to Lithuania

WASHINGTON - An accused Lithuanian security police chief linked to Nazi atrocities during the World War II has fled the United States and returned to Lithuania, the US Justice Department said on Wednesday.

It said the Lithuanian government confirmed the accused Nazi, Alexsandras Lileikis, arrived on Tuesday night in the capital of Vilnius, the city where he served during the war as chief of the Nazi-sponsored security police. He left the country after a fed-

eral judge in Boston last month stripped Lileikis of his US citizenship and declared that "tens of thousands... died under his com-

Donald Stern, the US attorney in Boston, said Lileikis turned in his passport Tuesday and that he will be barred from returning to

ness of the charges.

LONDON (Reuter) - A British magistrate yesterday

ordered an Algerian to be extradited to France where

he faces 23 charges in connection with a militant

Islamic bombing campaign that killed seven people. Rachid Ramda, 26, sat impassively in the high-

security Belmarsh court as magistrate Nicholas Evans denied an appeal for bail, citing the serious-

His lawyer said Ramda will fight the extradition in

the High Court. He has 15 days in which to appeal

News agencies the United States.

Lileikis, 88, came to the United States in 1955 from Germany, becoming a US citizen in 1976. Lileikis worked for a printing company and lived in Norwood. a town south of Boston, before fleeing the country.

During the war, 55,000 of the 60,000 lews in Vilnius (Vilna) died. The Justice Department's Nazi-hunting Office of Special Investigations alleged that Lileikis was a central figure in the Nazi-directed annihilation of the Jews in Vilnius.

During a citizenship hearing last year, William H. Kenety of the. Justice Department's special investigations office presented photocopies of the "death cards" Lileikis allegedly signed.

Algerian ordered extradited to France for bombings

Lileikis' attorney has said his client was following orders from his German superiors. Lileikis has refused to answer questions about his wartime activities, citing his US constitutional

against self-incrimination. But at one point, he said the signatures on the death orders were

The Simon Wiesenthal Center sent a letter to Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas asking that Lileikis be tried as soon as possible.

"Every day that goes by with Lileikis a free man in your capital city is a stain on the national honor of Lithuania, a stain that no amount of words not backed up by deeds can ever erase," according to a letter signed by the center's director in Israel, Efraim

against extradition to France, where he faces charges

including conspiracy to murder and to cause explo-

sions likely to endanger life and damage property.
French police blame militant Algerian Moslems for a spate of bombings which began in July 1995

Algeria's Armed Islamic Group (GIA) claimed

responsibility, accusing France of siding with

Algeria's military government in a civil war against

and killed seven and injured another 170 people.

Moslem fundamentalists.

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Lt. Col. YONATAN **NETANYAHU**

On the twentieth anniversary of the passing

during Operation Yonatan at Entebbe of

a memorial service will be held on Sunday, June 23, 1996 (6 Tammuz 5756), at 5:30 p.m. at his grave

in the Mount Herzl military cemetery, Jerusalem. A bus from Tel Aviv to Mount Herzl will depart from

Sderot Tarsat (between Habimah and the Helena

Rubinstein Pavilion) at 4 p.m. Yoni's family and friends

NEWS IN FOCUS

Friday, June 21, 1996

Netanyahu: Architect with a shaky foundation

Members of the new government hardly qualify as the expert professionals the premier wanted to build his efficient new edifice, Sarah Honig writes

AS Bank of Israel gov-emor Ya'acov Frenkel the goat in the latest government formation saga's outrageously bizarre twists and

Was he that proverbial creature of Jewish folklore, the one which the old rabbi advised the poor man to take into his overcrowded home, so that when the pesky animal is eventually removed from the cramped dwelling, it would make it all look better?

It was amazing this week to see how many people actually thought so, and how many believed that Ariel Sharon's travails all resulted from an ingenious stratagem calculated to get him to settle gratefully for an artificially contrived ministry which he might otherwise not ever have deigned to consider. There was almost a refusal to think otherwise by those who had overnight become unshakably convinced of Binyamin Netanyahu's unerring and foolproof political acumen.

Incredibly, a persistent perception this week was that what appeared like a series of disastrous fiascos was in fact all part of a brilliant, sophisticated maneuver. Such is the fickleness of public opinion that after months of deriding Netanyahu as an empty facade with no substance or depth, he now is regarded as a cunning manipulator who. cannot lose and whose clever, surprising plans had been hatched well in advance and are implemented coolly and with a determination which no one can

winning convert on the left, and right if would go a long way in explaining how a total political outsider could in a few years conand plod his way to the premier-ship against all the odds.

LOIS

ship against at the odds.

A colleague, who did not vote for Netanyalin, told me earlier in the week that I underestimate Netanyalin's craftiness and that she is sure there was no slip-up in the sordid episode in which mighty Likhid veteran Sharon was received the humilisted till a new repeatedly humiliated till a new portfolio was hastily contrived for him Netanyahu and his righthand man Avigdor ("Ivet") Lieberman knew what they were doing, she insists. Neither does she believe that there was a blunder in appointing Frenkel as finance minister, then retreating from the appointment, then letting Dan Meridor have the portfolio (after he was told that he was not good enough), and then maybe after all not putting it in his hands, but finally entrusting him with it. It all just had to be part of an astute scheme. That is Netanyahu's modus operandi.

The colleague advised me to consider Netanyahu's professional training. He has a degree in architecture, which indicates a mind-set and a tendency to meticulous long-range planning and the careful drawing of detailed blueprints, she noted.

He can indulge in unconventional design, according to this argument, precisely because he is not a party man of long-standing. because his party is not enamored of him and most of all because he is the first directly-elected prime

He can cast aside the Likud's leadership, cut the Fighting Family's princes down to size and run his government along the American model in which there really are no ministers in the sense that they function in the parliamentary system. The Norwegian Law, which will remove the ministers from the Knesset, will make this all the more palpable.

Netanyahu will be surrounded by secretaries who will run departments. They will owe their appointment to expertise in a given field and not to political connections. Hence the wish to import outside experts like Frenkel and attorney Dr. Ya'acov Ne'eman as justice minister.

I PUT this view to a leading Likud politician who did settle for one of the portfolios Netanyahu was willing to let him have.

He agreed that "Bibi's blueprint may be splendid. The question is whether he considered the quality of the terrain on which he was going to put up his new revolutionary edifice and whether the execution of the plans lived up to the quality of the artwork. Maybe Ivet the contractor went a little wild at the helm of the bulldozer that was leveling the lot which was not vacant to begin

"The new electoral system did not entirely do away with the parliamentary system and what remains of it-cannot be ignored. It already forced Bibi to accommodate his grand scheme to the old

new electoral system, which contrary to predictions - augexacted a heavy price from Netanyahu. The coalition parties' representatives in the government hardly qualify as the expert pro-fessionals that Bibi wanted to run his efficient new departments. Not only is the National Religious Party's Yitzhak Levy no expert in transportation and Yisrael Ba'aliya's Natan Sharansky no whiz in trade and industry, but some of the new ministers are

"I doubt Bibi ever laid eyes on Eli Suissa whom Shas picked as the new interior minister, and I doubt anyone has seen or evaluated the credentials of Shas's Eli Yishai to run the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry. For that matter, it's not exactly clear what makes Gesher's David Levy such a natural for Foreign Affairs. If ever there was a natural, it's Dan Meridor for Justice," the minister

Indeed even on the far left it is readily admitted that Meridor was the best justice minister in the country's history, when he held the office from 1988 to 1992.

Moreover, the assumption is that no architect ever wishes to construct one building only. Netanyahu, the consensus is, would want to go on to win another election and erect another govemment in 2000. He cannot afford to allow Lieberman's heavy earthmoving equipment to crush too many of those - either in or out of



the Likud - who helped him win the tender to begin with.

Thus Netanyahu must take the utmost care not to alienate the haredi community which turned out so overwhelmingly to vote for him. Its high birthrate will make it even more powerful in four years' time and he cannot afford not to have it on his side. So he let the haredi parties scribble red lines all over his blueprints, to say nothing of the fact that they walked away modity of all - the Housing port-

Nevertheless, Netanyahu curiously did manage to run afoul of the aged Rabbi Eliezer Schach who controls United Torah Judaism's non-hassidic Degel Hatorah faction. He earned Schach's ultimate putdown when the rabbi - who fasted on election day to underscore his entreaty to the Almighty to enable Netanyahu to defeat Peres - was quoted this week as saying that Netanyahu "is no better than Peres."

To make matters worse Schach ordered his MKs to get the

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LIKUD INSIDERS were more than displeased this week. They were reeling. In their judgment Netanyahu's original blueprintscalled for a government à la Ben-Gurion without the Herut and Maki parties.

can threaten to roll his engines form the next government and

over the likes of Ariel "Arik King of Israel" Sharon, Likud darling Meridor and the founding father's reincamation Benny Begin, was beyond comprehension in the

The Likud watched horrified as all sources of clout went to the coalition partners. This involves; an extent that they will end up not only the ministries but even. Knesset committees. As MK Shaul Amor cautioned Netanyahu: "This is not a matter

will maybe evince enough largesse to take the Likud into its coalition. We are putting too much power in their hands and they can be trusted to use the next four years to make a lot of friends and influence even more people, till they erode our support to such

with more votes." Netanyahu not only paid his

partners with numerous portfolios, he also left the Likud only the scraps which everyone else rejected. Those who credit Netanyahu with supreme caginess did not ascribe this to a farcical cock-up. Inserting Frenkel and then pulling him out allowed Netanyahu, it was asserted, to demonstrate who is boss, to settle accounts with those who kept putting their spokes in his wheels, but in the end make it look better.

Before the campaign Netanyahu suspected that Meridor was out to topple him, while Begin openly set out to undermine the vital preelection rapprochement between Netanyahu, David Levy and Rafael Eitan. Therefore Netanyahu, according to this theory, chose to toy with Meridor and Begin in order to push them down

a peg. Maybe.
But why then treat the indefatigable Ariel Sharon so shabbily? He is the man who made the rapprochement possible, who mobilized haredi support for Netanyahu and without whom it is unlikely that Netanyahu could have won. The Likud rank and file got no answer. This offended its most basic sense of fair play and it did not like to see its most popular hero so ignominiously slapped in the face.

"Netanyahu will need the party faithful in four years. He will yet learn that he cannot callously trample the Likud," Amor predict-

The aforementioned new Likud minister is similarly certain that "Bibi will be forced to see that fancy blueprints are not enough. If they are unrealistic, the bestlaid plans can result in a confining clapboard shack, no matter how grandiose the pretensions," and no matter how many goats are introduced inside, or how many Frenkels are then removed from

Neither would Netanyahu's structure be very sound if, for any reason, Sharon were after all left outside to huff and puff and threaten to bring the ramshackle

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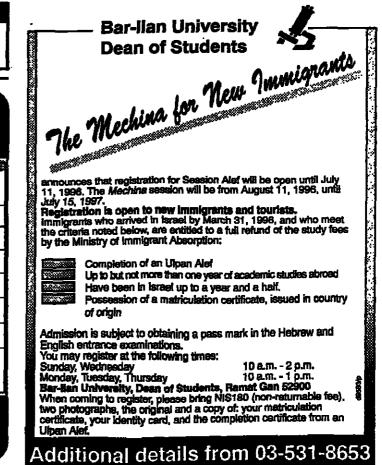
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'No, Prime Minister': Melodrama in three acts

Netanyahu won the power struggle with David Levy and Ariel Sharon. But the victory might come back to haunt him, Barry Rubin writes

RIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu sought to make himself an all-powerful, directly elected chief executive who stood above party, faction and coalition. For a while, this plan seemed to be working: Then David Levy and Ariel Sharon pulled him back to earth with a

This is the meaning of the drama over the inception of Netanyahu's new government. The question is whether this power struggle - and its unfavorable outcome for the prime minister - will set the tone for Netanyahu's whole term in office. At the end of Act 1, the moment he stood before the Knesset announcing his cabinet, Netanyahu had apparently achieved almost complete success by concentrating power in his

During the almost three-week period since his election as İsrael's first prime minister chosen by popular vote, he conducted the coalition negotiations virtually single-handed.

Netanyahu is young, he lacks top government experience, is relatively new to Likud politics, and was recently under fire from within his own party. But all these problems were overcome, he hoped, by the simple fact that he had won a personal victory in the ballot box. This was to be the basis for him to create a more 'presidential" system, as in France or the US.

That was why, in contrast to many in his own party, he was a strong advocate of the prime minister's direct election.

In Israel's system the prime minister has long been more powerful in practice than in theory, as shown by Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Rabin. Yet Netanyahu wanted to go further, and to guarantee the chief executive's place more openly. His own personal vulnerabilities made imposing his supremacy from the start all the more vital if he were to succeed in office,
Building a new government

required that he manage the con-tradictions among three factors: his own personal preferences, his party, and his partners. In this context, Netanyahu's

being able to compete or cause trouble for him. Thus he sought to keep Ariel Sharon, Moshe Katsav, Dan Meridor and Ze'ev Binyamin Begin out of key ministries. During Act 1, he succeeded remarkably well, if not totally, on this point. Reducing Sharon's role gave his government a more moderate image internationally as well as keeping out a man known for his brash style of independence.

Meridor did, however, end up with Finance (though this is not a post which often increases its holder's popularity), while Katsav accepted a minor ministry in exchange for the largely symbolic, added title of deputy prime

• To put his own people or technocrats into key offices.

When constituting his cabinet, the American president usually chooses a close personal associate as attorney-general. In this tradition, Netanyahu named Ya'acov Ne'eman as justice minister. He failed, however, to appoint Governor of the Bank of Israel Ya'acov Frenkel, a professional economist, as minister of finance, but did increase his power at Meridor's expense. Netanyahu also created a National Security Council, moved control of the Television Authority to his office, and is trying - despite great opposition in his own party - to install his own man as Knesset Speaker.

Surprisingly, Yitzhak Mordechai's selection as defense minister might be put into the same category. He is, after all, a professional soldier. But he is too much of a newcomer to pose a threat to Netanyahu. Moreover, he was the only person in the Likud who could pose a credible alternative to Sharon in that job.

• To make concessions to smaller parties needed for a Knesset majority, but who could not challenge his leadership. These con-cessions were preferable to compromises with top figures in his

It is easy to forget that Netanyahu has to cope with having seven parties as partners -Gesher, Tsomet, the National Religious Party, the Third Way, Yisrael Ba'aliya, United Torah Judaism and Shas - about as many as ever seen in an Israeli governing coalition. Each wants its share of ministries, Knesset potential rivals, or even equals, committees, pet policies, funding,

and other benefits. This leaves the Likud itself with a smaller share of the pie than usually goes to the ruling party.

Eager to put together a majority coalition, Netanyahu was quick to give these partners what they wanted. He and top aide Avigdor Lieberman controlled these talks completely. The style was that of a chief executive naming his cabinet, not a prime minister (a title that implies being a first among equals) bargaining to become the nation's leader. Netanyahu told the Likud what it would get; he himself, not his party, made deals

TO NETANYAHU'S benefit, there were relatively few policy differences among these groups. Even compared to the Rabin/Peres government, a wide measure of consensus existed. True, they squabbled about phrases in the coalition agreement and over the housing and religious affairs ministries, but these things were more the stuff of headaches than of heart attacks for a prime minister. Netanyahu resolved these issues in a way that seemed to reinforce his primacy: He simply took the disputed ministries rith himself as caretaker.

Giving David Levy the Foreign Ministry was also an easy decision for Netanyahu. Despite its prestige, the Foreign Ministry is a relatively harmless post in terms of power because a prime minister can easily circumvent it, as former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir did when Levy last held the port-Shorn of any authority over the

peace process - in contrast to Peres's role under Rabin - the foreign minister is a very sec-Moreover, David Levy as leader of his own Gesher Party aligned with, but not subject to, Likud discipline, is in a very different position from David Levy, Likud member and defeated candidate in the primaries. Everything Netanyahu gave Levy, including five safe Knesset seats, was done at the expense of loyal Likud members. But once he let Levy and the similarly aligned Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan have such autonomy, he had to keep paying them off to ensure their continued support.

And so, Netanyahu prepared to present his cabinet to the Knesset as a new-style chief executive leader. His rivals relegated to secondary posts, his own people in control of other ministries, disputes resolved by giving himself more portfolios, and Ariel Sharon excluded altogether. If David Levy had not wanted to take the Foreign Ministry portfolio,

and humiliated the man he loves to hate. Playing Jonathan to Ariel Sharon's David, Levy spoke touchingly of his devotion to "my friend, Arik." Using his own five votes, plus one Tsomet supporter, and an absent Sharon, Levy showed his leverage.

three weeks. Act 2 reversed every-Unless Netanyahu gave Sharon thing in about three hours. face significant political probchief executive Netanyahu had neglected two key

Netanyahu would have called his

bluff by winning a vote of confi-dence without him. Netanyahu

had achieved a great victory. But

WHILE ACT 1 lasted for almost

and inept, Levy outmaneuvered

that was only Act 1.

elected

factors: his own party's interests and his rivals' ambitions. The Levy's maneuver would not have succeeded without two other melodramatic Act 2 might be factors. First, there were many called "The Revenge of David discontented people in Likud who were also dissatisfied with the share of the spoils of victory. In a breathtakingly brilliant maneuver for a man long the butt Second, Netanyahu gave in quickof jokes portraying him as stupid ly and completely.

Sharon was offered a miniempire of unprecedented dimensions. Yet even this did not end Netanyahu's discomfiture. Sharon was in no hurry to accept the prime minister's capitulation. The damage to Netanyahu's credibility and authority may be per-

And so Act 3, concerning the new government's structure, and the climax of the play, com-mences. A tremendous blow has been dealt to Netanyahu's effort to restructure Israel's political insti-

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tutions. Indeed, his tenure might

Sharon, whose appetite for authority may grow as fast as he eats up parts of other ministries, will have ample scope for implementing his own preferences and ing to embarrass Netanyahu by proving he is more devoted to the needs of the settlers and the religious communities. To make matters worse, Netanyahu must face the consequences of other ministers' anger at Sharon's raids on

their authority. Levy, heading his own parliamentary bloc, will gleefully seek new opportunities to humiliate Netanyahu. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir always manipulated Levy, but Levy has now turned the tables on Netanyahu and he will not be gentle in taking advantage of his power. The alliance between his two main enemies will make Netanyahu's

job even tougher. Netanyahu is very fortunate indeed that Meridor, Begin and Eitan have been reasonable in their demands, with the latter two accepting relatively minor min-

istries. If the prime minister does not succeed in building close links end up being a step back from the not succeed in building close links "I centralizing trend of his recent" with these other coalition axistic ii. crais, he will have even more

problems. The new system, of course, makes Netanyahu's hold on the office of prime minister stronger than that of his predecessors. No the government to fall, which would mean facing the threat of new elections, the loss of hardwon ministries, and the return of .

the Labor Party. Equally, real policy disputes will be limited. The main disputes, over defining the religious/secular status quo, can be handled. In part, the Third Way and Yisrael Ba'aliya will balance the three religious parties, whose demands seem smaller than might have been expected. Coalition struggles for money and patronage will be more heated than any differences on national security or

the peace process. But Netanyahu's attempted structural revolution is very much in jeopardy. He is now unquestionably the country's leader, but he is much less securely established as the country's ruler than he had hoped to be.



Ariel Sharon found himself the odd man out in a game of governmental musical chairs, when the music stopped and he still hadn't gotten a seat in the cabinet.

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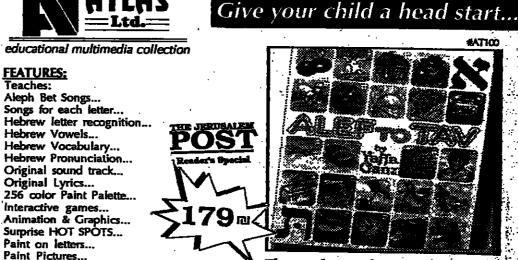
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The PA is upset at a lack of communication. Steve Rodan and Bill Hutman report.

TITH each passing day, Hassan Asfour seems more irritated with Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

Asfour, head of the Palestinian Authority Negotiating Department, reads the Netanyahu government's program and becomes upset that the prime minister has ruled out out a Palestinian state. Then, he and his colleagues try to reach members of the new government only to be told they can't talk to the Palestinians.

"All these things don't speak very well for the peace process." says Asfour, who is also an aide to the PA's No. 2, Mahmoud Abbas. "It is as if Netanyahu doesn't want to continue with the peace

For Palestinians comfortable in their dealings with the former Labor-led government, the prospect of working with Netanyahu is unsettling.

As they see it, the camaraderie is gone, the dialogue has become formal and the Israeli positions hardened, as the two sides prepare to enter negotiations over the next few weeks over issues held over from the Peres government. They include the IDF redeployment in Hebron, a further military rede-ployment in the territories and final status negotiations, subjects expected to be explored when US Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrives in Israel next

Israeli officials don't dispute many of these Palestinian assessments. The new government's guidelines say Israel will offer the Palestinians self-rule rather than statehood. The Likud-led coalition will oppose the Palestinian demand to return to their homes west of the Jordan, which includes Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

The government plank also calls for strengthening Jewish settlement as well as for the right of the IDF to battle terrorism anywhere, which presumably includes the areas under Palestinian authority.

These positions sharply contrast with those of the outgoing Labor government, some of whose representatives had told Palestinian leaders that they saw a Palestinian state as being the least objectionable of their demands.

Perhaps the strongest message emerging from the new govern-ment is that while it will continue negotiations begun under Labor, it will expect a lot more of the Palestinian Authority. The credo of Shimon Peres that benevolence and creative thinking alone can blur even the greatest of differences is rejected by Netanyahu's



Last Sunday, lack of cooperation in Area B turned deadly when off-duty policeman First. Sgt. Meir Alush was killed in the Samarian town of Bidiya. Bidiya, once controlled by pro-Israeli viilagers, is now a Hamas strong-

Ezra says the new government should not regard security agreements with the Palestinians as set in stone. He suggests that the IDF can withdraw from some areas of Hebron, but he wants to ensure that the IDF has the clear right to enter any area of the city transferred to the PA.

We can't allow {terrorists to have] Kalashnikovs in Hebron," some in the GSS who in the past ... he says. "We must have the right of hot pursuit."

of hot pursuit."

But Ezra has not been spelling few months have marveled at the out the government's line to the Palestinians. For one thing, Netanyahu and his aides have been careful not to set policy on such issues as Hebron and further redeployment. Moreover, Ezra has been asked not to speak to the Palestinians until a government is

> One aim of the new prime minister is to keep any dialogue with the Palestinians low-key. The person delegated by Netanyahu to speak to the Palestinians has been his foreign policy adviser, Dore Gold, a longtime researcher at Tel Aviv

University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies. Gold has spoken several times by phone to Abbas, known as Abu Mazen. "That is the only channel right now," a source close to Netanyahu

says. "All the rest is noise." The Palestinians, who had been used to negotiating with all levels of the Peres government, are unhappy with this approach.

Asfour says the Gold-Abu Mazen dialogue has been insubstantial. He says Gold avoided giving Abu Mazen details or commitments regarding such issues as negotiations on the final status of the territories, the pullout from Hebron and security

Cooperation. c
Gold only said that Netanyahu is committed to the peace process and asked that we don't attack the new government, that we give it

time," Asfour said.

"We are only talking about a few phone calls. I wouldn't call this a channel of communication. Israel just wants to tell the world that it is still talking to the Palestinians.

Gold refused to comment. But government sources confirm that Netanyahu has not made any commitments to the PA, although he is studying the issues pending with the Palestinians.

They recommend patience, saying that by complaining to the media, PA officials would only end up delaying the serious negotiations needed to maintain the Palestinian-Israeli track at a time when the Clinton administration is more concerned with achieving progress in Israeli talks with

contacts with The

emphatic in their approach. They say the IDF's experience in negotiating with the Palestinians is an important tool for the new govemment.

But they make it clear that the negotiations with the Palestinians will be centralized, in contrast to the numerous channels both the IDF and the government had with the PA during the Rabin and Peres administrations.

In the end, they say, Netanyahu will make the decisions on such issues as Hebron, further redeployment and final-status talks. He will consult with others, but I have the feeling that he will make up his own mind when the time is right," a source close to the prime minister says.

Perhaps the biggest fear of some senior Palestinian officials is that Israel will simply bypass them. This is said to be the concern of Dahlan and Rajoub, who have developed both political and commercial ties with Israelis, particularly those close to the Labor

Leading Palestinians maintain that the Peres government valued Rajoub so much that, along with the US, it succeeded in getting PA President Yasser Arafat to withdraw his dismissal of the security chief earlier this year. Aides to Peres deny this but a senior Israeli security source recalls, "We made it clear that we preferred to continue dealing with Rajoub."

Regardless, sources close to Netanyahu dismiss fears that he will choose his Palestinian interlocutors. But Asfour does not. "Israel will not decide who our leaders are," Asfour, who is close to Dahlan, says. "No one will " replace Dahlan and Rajoub."

For his part, Arafat plans on raising the stakes in his dealings with Israel. The Egyptian daily Al Ahram reports that at the Arab League summit being held in Cairo this weekend, the PA chief plans to ask for endorsement of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. Egyptian officials already say that they will approve such an announcement.

In the end, this might capture the attention of the US and Israel. Asfour says Netanyahu will have to meet Arafat to revive the Israeli-Palestinian negotiating track. The alternative to progress in the peace talks, he warns, is confrontation.

"Maybe the confrontation will be worse than the intifada." Asfour says. "But I hope not. I hope that Netanyahu will choose the path of peace and will come to the negotiating table serious about making progress."

Palestinians will be built up slow-

ly and incrementally," one source

So far, Netanyahu has allowed

the IDF and the GSS to continue

cooperating on security matters

with the PA. This includes talks

between Palestinian security

chiefs Mohammed Dahlan and

Jibril Rajoub, and GSS head Ami

Ayalon and IDF Chief of Staff Lt.

Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak. The

Israelis, however, are under orders

not to talk about political issues,

much to the irritation of their

Likud MK Ezra wants to go fur-

ther. He says the IDF must stay

away from negotiating with the

"The army has to deal with the

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Aides to Netanyahu aren't

Palestinian interlocutors.

Palestinians altogether.

to civilians," he says.

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Palestinians can't be according to

their mood," says Likud MK

Gideon Ezra, a former senior

General Security Services official

who has close contacts with the

PA. "It has to be constant and

Ezra disputes the assessment of

level of cooperation by

Palestinian: security services.

"The coopération is not wide-

spread," Ezra says. "It depends on

The biggest problem in cooper-

where the Palestinians have civil

anthority and the Israelis have

responsibility for security. Under the agreement signed last

September, Palestinian agents are

not permitted to operate in this

area - although Israeli military

sources say they actually do so - and therefore the PA does not

share information with Israel on

terrorist activities.

ation, Ezra says, is in Area B,

the person and the mood."

everywhere in the tetritories."

This cooperation with the

the territories.

An Israeli visits Syria

minor again, ordering his first At midnight, with the hawk of the Syrian Arab Republic stamped in my passport, I make final preparations for boarding the overnight bus to Antakya on the southern Turkish border. All possessions must be sanitized against any connection to Israel. Off comes a Hebrew label from my bathing suit.

HE window of opportunity

hour a day. A visa applicant must

present a letter from his embassy

confirming that he is a non-Jew

and a completed form declaring that he has never been to

Occupied Palestine. I remove my

imam cap to be scrutinized. A

at the Syrian Embassy in

Ankara slides open for one

At Syrian passport control the official studies my entry card. I have listed my occupation as clerk, a low-profile soul of discretion. Eyebrow raised, he asks about my travel plans after Syria. I say that I will be flying home from Amman.

My first stop is the desert port and caravan city of Aleppo, in northern Syria on the Silk Route, 60km. from the Turkish border. A continuously inhabited population center since 1,000 years before King David conquered Jerusalem, Aleppo is renowned for its bazaars, mosques and

Like an Orient Express passenger on a layover, I check in at the Hotel Baron, Built in the grand old-fashioned railway style in 1909, its guest book is both a catalog of melodious names worthy of a Gatsby party - the Princess Galetzine, the Earl of Iveagh, Sir Hugh Knutchbull-Hugessen and a register of Jazz Age to Jet

Age movers and shakers.
Lord and Lady Louis Mountbatten, Teddy Roosevelts, Charles Lindbergh, Gene Tunney, Francis Cardinal Spellman, David Rockefeller, Agatha Christie and Yuri Gagarin slept here. In the bar I spot Indiana Jones, Abercrombie & Fitch and Tom Baxter of the Chicago Baxters. I chat with a couple of British Commonwealth travelers - looking like road warriors from a Mad Max movie just arrived from Iran via PKK country in Eastern Turkey.

In the parlor is a tribute to T.E. Lawrence, the hotel's most famous guest of all, who stayed here in the summer of 1909 while researching his Oxford thesis on medieval architecture. Able to hike 13 hours a day, he completed an 1,800km. walking tour of Ottoman-controlled Lebanon and Palestine in three

Living like the locals, he sketched, photographed and analyzed 36 Crusader castles. His subsequent work as a field archeologist at the British Museum excavation at Karakamis in northeastern Syria led to a post in Cairo at the start of World War I. He returned to Syria at the end of the war as "Lawrence of Arabia," a key player in the Arab revolt that helped defeat the Ottoman empire.

A COUPLE of hours drive south of Aleppo is the once-beautiful city of Hama, situated on the Orontes River and home of the enormous, creaky waterwheels, or norias, which have been used for irrigation for hundreds of years. Hama is an organism with its arms and legs ripped off. Vast areas where apartments, stores, markets, mosques and schools once stood are now denuded

In February 1982, after fighting an urban guerrilla war for several years against the fundamentalist Sunni Moslem Brotherhood, President Assad chose Hama for a showdown. The city was sealed off and then T-62 tanks under the command of the dictator's brother and caporegime Rifaat razed those neighborhoods known to

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of their lives



Above, the Hamadieh market in Damascus. Below, the remains of the devastation in Hama

Matthew Weinberg of Eilat, traveling on a foreign passport, catches a rare glimpse of a forbidding country

be or suspected of harboring Brotherhood rebels. Anything still standing was dynamited and then everything was pulverized and flattened by bulldozers and steamrollers. Some 20,000 people, mostly civilians, were either killed in their homes by artillery fire or executed afterwards. I saw large districts of the city that were ringed with bullet-riddled shells of buildings but empty except for clumps of rubble in the sand here and there. The disfigurement serves the regime. A silently screaming warning against sedition.

through the mountain range that separates the interior of Syria

balcony, above the circling hawks, I can see the Mediterranean.

On the bus ride east to Palmyra in the Syrian Desert I lock eyes briefly with a young, colorfully dressed peasant woman with henna stains on her palms, returning home from a wedding. She is eating sunflower seeds and throwing the shells on the floor, playfully close to me. We pass an air-force base where soldiers disembark, and then the Tadmor Prison turnoff. I hop off at Palmyra and we smile a final

Like its classical sister cities, one-stop antiquities Eden. A citystate of 30,000 in 200 CE, it was

cafes of Damascus: arms salesmen, military and technical advisers, drug, diamond and currency traders. Holdovers from the halcyon days of Soviet patronage, these people help keep Syria on the US State Department list of countries that

DAMASCUS is in decay. Even 90 years ago Lawrence wrote home that it "always seemed to have been such a splendid town." All product advertising is restricted to letters, numerals and

Syria Times.

attempting the jump to light speed with his Range Rover en Damascus route to the International Airport.

Neither taxi drivers, hotel staff nor fellow bus passengers breathe a word about current events. The streets in this police state are safe. Petty crime would

be seditious. Save for the pretentious xenophobia of its embassy clerks, I was welcomed with polite, probing curiosity. Citizens are stiy of foreigners and intimi-dated by the unfamiliar.

Syrian women, like their conservative Israeli Arab sisters, cover their hair and cloak themselves. Many wear the chador. But in the Castle of Fakhr nd-Din at Palmyra, I talked with a couple of sleek Syrian daughters of the elite. Dressed in T-shirts and designer jeans, they were sightseeing with their ponytailed German boyfriends. Those hip heartbreakers spoke international English and affected the attitude and indifference of the trendiest Sheinkin Street

In the al-Hamidea market in Damascus I noticed four petite Asiatic women, walking side by side. They wore pastel-colored

Shosharinah Rick Chairwortien Israel Executive Board

124 deluxe rodens

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silk blouses, pleated knee-length skirts, nylon stockings and black pumps. Each was hooded in a translucent veil fastened under the chin. Their faces were completely covered. The wives of an Indonesian nobleman.

MY HOTEL is opposite Martyrs' Square. It was here, in May 1965, that Israeli spy Eli Cohen was hanged and his body left suspended for six hours. The event, carried live by the Syrian media, was available to anyone in Israel with access to a television set, including Cohen's wife. I cross the street to say a silent, motionless Kaddish.

The pride of the Syrian Armed Forces is the military museum in Damascus. It houses an armory of weapons of every description and from every era of the country's history: sabers, rapiers and cutlasses, blunderbusses, long-barreled flintlocks, muzzleloaded cannons and bolt-action rifles. There are chunks of lime wrapped in canvas which were used as crude Molotov cocktails by nationalist insurgents against the French Army of the Levant which occupied Syria from 1920

to 1946. There are Renault armored vehicles, a MiG-17 and the command capsule that took Syrian cosmonaut Mohammed Farres into space with two Soviets in 1987. But the center of attention is the section exhibiting plunder from the Yom Kippur War.

Against a backdrop of huge black-and-white photographs of IDF POWs, Israeli families in mourning at gravesides and a crisis-stricken Golda Meir and Moshe Dayan, is an array of souvenirs collected after the southern Golan Heights were overrun and the Mount Hermon intelligence post was captured during the first 36 hours of the war. There are tattered Israeli flags, Uzis, medium machine guns, mortars, bazookas and cluster bomblets.

There is a pilot's pressure suit, infrared equipment, a tank fire extinguisher and an assortment of dishes, cutlery, postcards, toothpaste and other personal effects. The tail section of an IAF iet covered with messages and signatures in Arabic hangs on a wall. The fuselage of a South African Air Force Mirage 3 is on display. It had been purchased and flown by the Lebanese Amal militia and shot down over the Bekaa in 1982.

In the yard outside is a heap of wreckage, the remains of Israeli Skyhawks and Phantoms downed by SAM missiles. There are also captured remotely-pilot-ed vehicles – drones. The trench knife used by Abdullah Muhandes "to kill three Zionists" is featured prominently. Inevitably, a place is reserved for Number One, pictured as he monitors developments from a

I WAKE up early in Damascus with the amplified summons to prayer of the muezzin. I buy breakfast from a street vendor freshly squeezed pomegranate juice, chilled in the glass with ice shaved from a long block. By evening I will be back home in Filat.

Like a Middle Eastern Cuba, Syria is an antique car show. Fleets of bright yellow, tailfinned, heavily bondoed Packards, Ŝtudebackers, Hudsons and DeSotos serve the cities. I ride to the bus station in the Kalashnikov of small cars, the 1971 Toyota Corolla. My taxi for the three-hour run from Damascus to Amman is a '73 Dodge Coronet. It packs a 440 magnum V8 engine with a fourbarrel carburetor. Built to last by Chrysler Corporation. We cruise past Mercedes and BMWs returning to the Gulf states. From Amman to Akaba it's a five-hour bus ride south.

Akaba's capture from the Turks in July 1917, by a force of Beduin, Harb and Howeitat tribesmen with Lawrence as British liaison officer ignited the Arab Revolt and catapulted Lawrence to fame. It was glamorized by David Lean in the 1962 movie Lawrence of Arabia. I could have seen the battle from my apartment window in Eilat.



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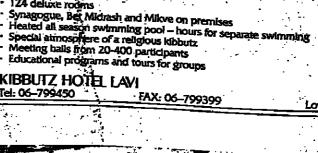
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Speciacular vistas of the Golan and Tiberias.

KOL HAKAVOD!

AMIT Women pays tribute to the students and staff of the AMIT Network of Educational Projects for their outstanding scholastic achievements this year. These include: AMIT Petah Tikva - prize for its contribution to religious education.
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Media votes 'No' to Israeli democracy

TN a period of deep national trauma that included assassination of its prime minister, imprecedented terrorism on the streets of its cities, and wrenching internal debate over issues of national survival, the Israeli public went to the polls in orderly form and voted for a new government. Without incident, power was transferred to a new leadership in accordance with the popular will.

But the media didn't like it. From veteran Israel-bashers like CNN's Crossfire host Robert Novak, to cartoonists nationwide, to the New York Times's Serge Schmemann and Tom Friedman, the protest was the same. The citizens of Israel had given in to fear, let the world down and opted for the "anti-peace party."

Novak's display of naked hostility surpassed in ugliness even the norms of that unruly talk show. Interrogating former Israeli ambassador Zalman Shoval, Novak said, "is it fair, Ambassador Shoval, that people all around the world watching CNN and hearing this news are

going to be terribly depressed? __ Do you think they're wrong in being depressed to see the anti-

Warming to his subject, Novak singled out Istael's Jewish voters: "I'll tell you who did the nose thumbing. It was the majority of Jews in Israel who said, 'The hell with you, United States. We don't care for your billions of dollars. We'll pick our own prime minister.' Maybe they want to see how they get along without our bil-lions, huh?"

Those uppity Jews, daring to choose their own government! CNN's news coverage was the most comprehensive in the US, providing the viewers the benefit of nearly commuous reporting on the voting process.

Visiting anchorwoman Christiane Amanpour began the election story in good humor but grew noticeably grimmer as the results became clean, describing Benjamin Netanyahu again and again as having "played on peo-ple's fears" and having made. "hardline pledges."

peace party win in Israel?"

Guests, including a preponderance of Americans, Israelis and Arabs critical of the incoming government, affirmed the gloomy view that peace had been subverted. CNN's Brent Sadler called the new prime minister a swaggerer.

Crude cartoons blossomed in newspapers, with a proliferation of mutilated doves and images of Hamas and Yigal Amir rejoicing. None, however, equaled the monstrous Herblock in the Washington

A skull-faced suicide bomber raised a blood-drenched fist in joint celebration with an equally kideous figure dripping blood and holding a newspaper headlined: "Hard-line resurgence in Israel." The caption to this gore read, "It looks like we won!" If a cartoon is meant to crystallize a truth, this one is a permanent memorial to iournalistic virulence. The New York Times's Serge

Schmemann appeared no less irri-

tated by the election. He repeatedly called incoming Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "vicious" and "ruthless."

GUEST COLUMNIST ANDREA LEVIN

He leveled blame at the Peres camp, the Israeli media and the voting public for their part in the governmental change of which he disapproved. A June 2 news report blamed the Israeli media that had "focused largely, and at times obsessively, on Jewish security, on charges that Mr. Arafat was not extraditing terrorists, on disputes over whether he had actually dropped calls for Israel's destruction from the PLO covenant."

Trivial matters in the view of Schmemann who has in his own writing for America's "newspaper of record" virtually ignored PLO violations of Oslo. Even here his reference to "charges" about Arafat's failure to extradite terrorists is a deception. It is a fact not a charge that no extraditions have taken place, despite 18 separate requests subjitted to the PAL This is no arcane information. It bears viusy on Arafat's derelic-

own side gainst Israelis. Likewie, Schmemann knows there as legitimate questions about Pastinian failure to revoke the PLOcharter. The issue is crucial to/Israelis who have seen Arafail even since the Oslo signings continue to incite his own peopl precisely along the lines spelle out in that charter.

tion in meting central commit-

ments to fevent violence by his

An Jews have died in unprecedenid numbers because of Arait's exhortations and policies. Wisout revocation of the charteri call to destroy Israel, all the oter Palestinian violations of Olo loom even more menacing fe Israelis. Schmemann waves away such

plations: "Israel was at least as lipable by ignoring its contractual bligations to release female pris-

oners, to make a transit road from Gaza to the West Bank, or to withdraw the military from Hebron." Thus does he equate Palestinian

failure to honor its foremost commitment under Oslo, to forswear and prevent terrorism against Jews, to Jewish failure to build a road, release female prisoners (after releasing thousands of prisoners. President Ezer Weizman balked at the release of immates convicted of terrorist killings), and withdraw from Hebron.

(In the wake of five terror attacks in nine days, Israel froze all implementation of the agreements until the terrorist perpetrators were rounded up. Key leaders remain at large, primarily due to Arafat's refusal to arrest them.) Schmemann's reports evince in particularly insidious form the media penchant to forgive the Arabs everything and to forgive

A companion soul Schmemann's on the Times op-ed page, Tom Friedman, campaigned ardently for the Peres government and he took the voters' decision with his familiar bland of cliched analysis and impudent moralizing. Rabin assassin Yigal Amir and sui-cide bombers had won, he wrote, in the now-hackneyed formulation of media critics of the election. In

other words; evil had won. This is nonsense. Just prior to the assassination, Netanyahu led Rabin in opinion polls. The revulsion at Amir's murderous act and sympathy for the Labor government sent polls soaring in Labor's favor.

That is why the Labor government scheduled early elections. Amir's action came close to defeating the opposition. Suicide bombers only won if it can be argued their murderous forays of recent years have in these election results brought them closer to realization of their aim of annihilating Israel. Would Friedman

What makes Friedman's analysis and that of so many other media commentators sterile and ultimately useless to the public is its contempt for the facts and, in this instance, its contempt for the people of Israel.

city – an¢ the best is yet to come Jerusalem is a wonderful

EOPLE sometimes say that in comparison with Tel Aviv, Jerusalem has less of a cultural

They don't really mean culture, I suspect, but night life, entertainment. Fun. Because as far as culture is concerned. no city in Israel can hold a candle to Jerusalem, with its incredible and exceptionally well-preserved archeological and historical sites, with its libraries, community centers and parks, with one of the finest museums in the world, a magnificent Cinematheque, an incredible zoo, and much, much more.

The architecture of the city, which is also part of its culture, is unique and breathtakingly beautiful. We have, so far, not succumbed to building high

rises, or glass buildings. We have stuck to Jerusalem stone and preserved the character of the holiest of cities. Jerusalemites enjoy its natural beauty. They read, attend concerts and visit the many shows and exhibitions that come here.

Nor is the nightlife itself inferior to Tel Aviv. There are dozens of cafes and pubs, particularly in the area of the Russian Compound and Nahalat Shiva. I am told the Jerusalem discotheques are certainly no less attractive than those of

What is still lacking here to a great extent, is theater and opera, but not much else. Considering that Jerusalem is a much poorer city than Tel Aviv, and with a substantially smaller number of

TEDDY KOLLEK with AMOS KOLLEK

people who seek active night life and Western culture, Jerusalem has certainly nothing to be ashamed of.

So, I suppose that when people talk about Tel Aviv as having more of a cul-tural life, they are referring primarily to the fact that Tel Aviv has a more liberal and free atmosphere, a feeling of there being no restriction.

This is clearly true. Jerusalem attracts a growing number of religious people. They come and settle while some secular Israelis, particularly young couples,

Also, the religious population of the

city has a much higher birthrate than the secular. Everyyear their number grows by comparisq. This is a welcome development. Afte all, this is our Holy City, the heart ofour nation, the site of the two Temple

It is onlyfitting that it should be the center for eligion and its followers. But it is up tous, the secular Jews in Israel, our childen and our grandchildren, to decide whether it is also our city, and to what exent, and to do something about

It dosn't take too wild an imagination to envision a Jerusalem that is not only a spiritual and historical center, but also the "in" place for modern culture, for theater, dance, film, poetry, television and so on.

Israel nothing.

All it really takes is a great deal of consciousness and commitment on the part of the secular portion of our population - and particularly of our young artists, entrepreneurs, reporters, businessmen, television producers, newspaper publishers and so on - of the tremendons potential that Jerusalem, the Old

and New combined, possesses.

Jerusalem can be like Paris in the '30s or New York today, a place that will attract people from all over the world with its romantic magic, its growing economic strength and its dynamic cul-

Although it will take some will and foresight, also, perhaps some sacrifice, for a while, if they were to make a move to Jerusalem. But they should do so, in order to preserve its pluralistic character, to increase its vitality and its

The government could be of great help by giving financial support to the city. cheaper housing, incentives to businesses and entertainment to move here, and

There is no place in Israel with as much potential and power as Jerusalem has. It is time that more attention is given to realizing this potential. One of the many by-products would be a stronger unified capital for Israel, and a stronger and more unified nation.

by DOSH

A Mafia of fatuity

UR journalists, especially those of the state-supervised electronic media, are again seeking to create panic among the public - as they did following the previous right-wing and religious election victories over the bogey of alleged intentions of the incoming regime to take over those media, stifle criti-

On the other hand, we have repeatedly heard about the "leftwing" maffa tiomhiáitiag our cóinmanications media, both public and private.

There is, indeed, ample evidence that Israel's journalists, on the whole, have most zestfully filled the adversarial role traditionally adopted by journalists. Only in our instance they have done so less against the establishment per se - except when it has been dominated by the Likud and the Orthodox parties - and more against traditional Jewish and Zionist institutions and conventions and their representatives.

If they are to be called a Mafia. they are less a carefully organized, intelligent Mafia of leftism and more one of post-Jewish, post-Zionist cynicism about those institutions and conventions, a cynicism fed by ignorance and expressed fatuously, inanely. Blatant examples of this fatuity and inanity are some of the main comperes of Israel Television's Good Morning, Israel morning news magazine. I refer to their patter introducing and then commenting on the items presented, patter that at best merely kills time and adds nothing to our

understanding. For example: The other morning Daniel Pe'er told a story about a Thai who had lost an \$11,000 gift he had prepared for the king, and how someone had found it and returned it to him.

Pe'er looked at his partner Geula Even, as if to say: Now what do you think of that? Even was at a loss for words for

a few seconds, then said: "It could happen only in Thailand. There's no chance of anything like that happening here."

When is the last time Even and her colleagues asked the police and bus and taxi companies' lostand-found departments about the valuables turned over to them by the public or by the drivers? WE HAVE seen how Harvard University gives its aegis to the

rewriting and distortion of the his-

tory of the Arab-Jewish conflict.

A VIEW FROM NOV MOSHE KOHN

I refer to the Middle East Resources newsletter of the Teaching Resource Center of Harvard's Center for Middle Eastern Studies. Two years ago I Yathrib (Medina). cited some mis-definitions from the "Middle East Glossary" in

MER's June 1994 issue. For example it described Black Sprember he PLO shis team as the PLO organization responsible for holding Israeli athletes. hostage at the 1972 [Munich] Olympics." Not a word about the s toke in ine those hostages. One more of several examples:

On November 29, 1947, the UN General Assembly recommended partitioning what remained of Britain's "Palestine" mandate, West Eretz Yisrael, into a Jewish and an Arab state. On May 14, 1948, as the British were withdrawing, the Zionist leadership proclaimed the establishment of the Jewish state in the area the UN had designated for that purpose. The neighboring Arab states thereupon invaded Israel, they and local Arab leaders declaring their intention to destroy the newborn state and massacre its Jews.

But here is MER's description of those events: "[T]he Arabs protested vigorously against the partition. War ensued."

According to Harvard, the Arabs didn't launch the war, it somehow "ensued." The Arabs did not reject the partition proposal, they only "protested vigorously."

Now MER, in its March issue, devoted to thehaj (pilgrimage to Mecca) and the Islamic calendar. comes up with erroneous genealogy and chronology, imposes anti-Jewish nomenclature on its readers, and promotes anti-white

According to all the Jewish. Christian and Moslem sources, Ishmael, considered the patriarch of the Arabs, was Abraham's son by Hagar. According to Harvard's MER, he was Abraham's grandson, along with Jacob.

Earlier MER correctly states: "According to Moslem tradition, the patriarch Abraham with his son Ismail built... the Kaaba... in

(Why for Abraham does MER prefer the common English transliteration of his Hebrew name, "Avraham," but for Ishmael ["Yishmael" in Hebrew] it chooses the transliteration of his

Arabic name, "Ismail"?)

IN THE same glossary that mis-places Ishmael generationally, MER chronologically misplaces Mohammed's journey from Mecca, whose inhabitants had rejected his new religion, to

That migration, called by its Arabic name Hijra in Islamic historiography and which marks Year 1 AH (Year of the Hijra in the Islamic calendar), took place in 622 CE Today we are in the year 1417 AH. MER dates the Hijra in 622 AH," i.e. 622 Islamic years after it actually took place, or sometime late in the 12th century

(The steadily increasing difference between the Islamic calendar and the Gregorian calendar is due to the fact that the former is a lunar calendar of about 354 days, which, unlike the Jewish hunar calendar, does not adjust itself to the Gregorian 365 1/4-day solar calendar. The Jewish calendar does this by having seven 13month years in every 19-year cycle, and the difference between the Jewish year and the Gregorian year is always 3,760 years - we are now in 5756/1996.)

In discussing the Haj, MER lists several other examples of pilgrimage destinations, including what it calls the "Wailing (Western) Wall." To be sure, in all European lan-

guages the Western Wall, as the Jews have always called it and as Israel officially calls it today, is designated by some form of the term "wailing": "Mur des Pleurs" or "...des Lamentations" in French; "Klagemauer" in German; etc. It was not dubbed

thus by Jews, or by non-Jews who loved or respected the site and the Jews who came there to bewail the destruction of the Temple and Jewish sovereignty. Rather, those who so dubbed it intended the name as a mockery of the wailing Jews and an expression of exultation over the destruction that the

site represents. Accordingly, it would have been fitting for Harvard's MER to list the site as "Western (Wailing) Wall" rather than the way it did. But I suppose that would have displeased those subsidizing the Center for Middle Eastern Studies

Finally, this MER contains sev eral inspirational quotations from various writings, including a lette "written by one of America's mot famous Moslems," Malcolm 3 After performing the haj, he wrote to his assistants in Harlem how uplifted he had been by experiencing the haj with fellow Moslems whose eyes were the bluest of blue, whose hair warthe blondest of blond, and whose kin was the whitest of white. Andin ... the white Moslems I felt thesame sincerity that I felt among the black African Moslems. We were truly all the same (bothers) - because their belief in the God had removed the white from their behavior, and the white fom their attitude."

I didn't know my belief in one God gains me a black soul and a black heart. MER tell you where you can get a copy of the pamphlet containing Malcolm X's

racist letter. (Thanks to Dr. 1 seph Lerner, Jerusalem.)







The road to redemption is lined with risk and opportunity

"This is the statute of the Torah which Gd has commanded.... Bring yof a red heifer, flawless, wherein's no blemish, and upon which fiver came yoke." (Num. 19:2)

TUAL as there is no rational explanation for gravity, there at laws in the Torah with no rational explanation. These are calle hukim.

The specifics of one such law the red heifer mixture which puffies from contact with death re enumerated at the beginnig of our portion, Hukat: The heffer is burned together with cellar, hyssop and scarlet wool. After the addition of water, the that mixture purifies those who have become defiled by contact with a corpse.

The very procedure seems mysteous enough, but the law of the red eifer includes another element ot only does the strange mixture purify the impure, but all involved fin the manufacturing process themelves become defiled.

It doesn't make sense? Perhaps it's not supposed to. From the perspective of the mystic, the Torah should be observed not because we understand it but because God commanded it. every law possessing more significance than even the greatest human mind can fathom.

This explanation is fine for Rashi and the many biblical interpreters who can accept a Torah SHABBAT SHALOM SHLOMO RISKIN

which is trans-logical. But what are the rationalists like Rabbenu Sa'adia Gaon and Maimonides to do with hukim in their theological systems? These authors argue that nothing in the Torah could possibly be non-rational, since Torah reflects the wisdom of the Divine and must be consummately rational by definition.

Perhaps a direction for understanding may be found by exploring another interpretation of the opening verse, honing in on the Hebrew word hok, literally "engraved." Letters inscribed in stone emerge from the stone itself; the stone is part and parcel of the letters, and the letters are part and parcel of the stone. The medium is literally the message.

When the Torah introduces the red heifer with the words zot hukat hatorah, (this is the "engraving" of the Torah), we are being taught that the red heifer is bound up with the very definition of Torah. From the ancient Egyptian pyra-

mids to 20th-century philosopher Ernest Becker, humanity has been struggling with the mystery of death, yearning to be purified from the agonizing fear of the unknown which awaits us all. Similarly, religion in general and Torah in particular has the recipe for eternal life on an individual as

well as national level. After all, if, from a religious perspective. death is the punishment for human transgression, the goal of Torah is to return the world to the Garden of Eden. And Torah certainly purports to teach humanity to cease engaging in crimes, war-fare and bloodshed, to turn swords into plowshares and to live

together in peace. It is to be hoped that by our giving the world Christianity and Islam (in their more rational forms), we began to fulfill both our mission of becoming a light unto the nations, as well as the promise to Abraham that through us the families of the earth shall be blessed.

In accordance with the red heifer analogy, however, we as a nation have been exiled, tortured and despised by those we have attempted to purify.

Hence, it is by careful design that the red heifer hok appears immediately after commandments emphasizing the unique role the land of Israel must play in the purification from death.

It must be remembered that the one promise the Bible makes to Abraham and the Prophets is that despite all our suffering as a people, at least a remnant will live and return to Zion, our homeland. This promise reaches a climax in the prophetic vision of a valley of dry bones - "and the dry bones rise from the graves. are enveloped in flesh and arteries, and are informed with renewed hearts and souls." (Ezekiel 37)

The new-formed State of Israel provided a contemporary confirmation of that ancient prophecy when the mussulmen of Auschwitz became transformed into soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces, and Israeli statehood again became a reality. In our own lifetimes, the State of Israel has literally purified us as a nation from contact with the dead.

But just as the red heifer contains a paradoxical element, so too war, power and politics (the normative instruments of our return and sovereignty) can all serve to defile in a much more insidious manner than life in the Diaspora could ever do. After all, we were not ultimately responsible in the Diaspora, while we are ultimately respon-

sible in Israel. But the paradox must not frighten us. If you want to live, if you want to purify things that are far from being pure, the danger of defilement is the price which

must be paid. Such are the risks and opportunities, the danger and potential, which we must willingly face in our march toward Redemption. Shabbat Shalom

Your help really makes a difference

BEVERLEE BLACK

AST week's listings omitted shekel contributions, which we are publishing this week

Checks should be mailed to: The Jerusalem Post Funds, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. Donors in the US wishing to

receive tax benefits can send their donations to: Friends of The Jerusalem Post Funds, 211 E. 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017. Please designate in your letter to which fund you wish to donate.

FORSAKE ME NOT NIS 10,000 Proceeds from Pessah Handiczaft Fair. NIS 500 In memory of our father, Moshe Orustein - from his children in Israel and Australia.

NIS 300 On the occasion of my 75th birthday - Miriam Tal, Sde Nehemia. NIS 200 Mr. and Mrs. Victor Fonda, Netanya. In honor of the 80th birthday of Colin Kaye - From his Israali grandchildren, Sharon, Avi and Orit. NIS 180 The Michelson Family, J'lm.

NIS 150 in memory of Avraham Sandler NIS 120 In honor of the 90th birthday of Lone Markus - Raymond and Betty

NIS 100 in loving memory of Leah and Eley Tomlinson, Stephanie Michaeli, Tel Aviv. Gershon Deutsch, Ramat Chen. Gerda and Jakob Aloni, Oberengstringen, Switzerland. NIS 50 In memory of Sanford Haber -Haber-Thaler family. For the spring hol-

idays - Haber-Thaler family. In the

in honor of the 90th birthday of Mrs. Lotte Markus - Hava Bitan, J'Im. Renee Berman, Safed. PENEM. In appreciation of Bryna Kaufman's gracious help when needed - Rose Kline, Beersheba. NIS 30 Mrs. B. Lanzkron, Trvon. NIS 10 E. Rosenstein, Netanya. New Donations

Progress Totals NIS 243,766.79 NIS 16.245

TOY FUND

Obcrengstringen, Switzerland,

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NIS 54 (3 x hai) in honor of the bar mitzva of Yonatan Meir Levitt - From the Raskin Family, J'lm. NIS 50 Renee Berman, Safed NIS 36 From Jason, Mira, Ben and Riva, Beit Oren.

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NIS 25 To remember one of Jerusalem's most helpful and interesting citizens, Rnth Rund (z'l) - The Cohens, Ma'alch NIS 10 E. Rosenstein, Netanya.

Progress Totals **New Donations**

NIS 24,302.67

THE JERUSALEM INTERNATIONAL EDITION

In these times you cannot

AFFORD to be without

Nice guys can finish first

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

Both sides vulnerable

♠ A K **♥**AKJ8752 43

‡QJ1076542 **♦** 10 2 ♣K1097 ♣J64

> South (Simon) ♠ 9 8 ❤ 6 **◆**AKQ765

♣AQ85

West North East South - 1 H 1 S 2 ◆ pass 3 H pass 4 ◆ pass 5 ♣ pass 7 NT pass 5 S (all pass)

Opening lead: 43

HIS week's deal comes from a tournament in Los Angeles, played many years ago. It is a tale of good sportsmanship with a happy ending for our hero, Harold Simon, sitting in the

Before the round began, Simon noted that his opponents were very inexperienced. Also, there were a number of kibitzers at the table, which made the East-West players even more nervous than usual.

The bidding began with a oneheart opening by Simon's partner, North. East overcalled one spade (but should have preempted instead). The simple overcall allowed North-South extra bidding room. After South bid two diamonds and North jumped to three hearts, South rebid his diamonds and North made a cuebid in spades. South cuebid five clubs and North cuebid spades again. Finally, South jumped to the aggressive grand slam.

West led his singleton spade and declarer was sorry to see that the heart suit in dummy was not solid. Simon won the king of spades in dummy and led a diamond to his ace. Then he followed with a finesse in hearts, leading his singleton heart to dummy's jack. When East discarded a spade, declarer could count two sure spade tricks, three hearts, six diamonds (if they broke 3-2) and one

club, a total of 12. It appeared that the club finesse would be needed. A second round of diamonds was led to the king and West discarded the nine of clubs! Simon was disappointed, but when he next played the queen of diamonds, an 'oops" came from West's lips, followed by: "I've made a mistake, I have a diamond to play on the last

IN CASES like this, it is normal and proper to call the director to the table. In this particular case, the director would have made a standard ruling. West must play a dia-mond to the former trick and the nine of clubs remains on the table as a penalty card, to be played at the first opportunity. This would mean that West would follow suit in diamonds and declarer would have the opportunity to take advantage of the penalty card.

For example, declarer (not suspecting the 7-1 spade split) might play a spade to dummy, cash the ace and king of hearts, throwing two clubs from the South hand, and lead a club to the queen. If the nine of clubs was still a penalty card, the finesse would be a sure

Simon, however, did not call the director. Instead, he graciously turned to the West player and said, "That's OK. Pick up the club and follow suit with your diamond. No penalty." If Simon had tried to take advantage of the penalty, the proposed plan would have backfired. On the lead of a spade to dummy, West would discard the exposed nine of clubs and declarer's club finesse would fail.

When Simon waived the penalty, however, West put the nine of clubs back in his hand and Simon cashed his remaining diamonds. He then followed with a spade to dummy and cashed the ace and king of hearts. Meanwhile, West was most distraught, this time because he was being squeezed. When declarer led a spade to dummy, there were five cards left in each hand. Dummy held the ace of spades, the ace, king and eight

of hearts, and a club. Declarer still held the ace and queen of clubs. West had to discard. West held three hearts to the queen and two clubs to the king; to protect the hearts, he was forced to bare down to the singleton king of clubs. At trick 12, declarer led-a club to his ace, the king fell and the



When predator populations re consciously reduced, their prey must also be kept in check. Otherwise, animals such as gazlles will cause severe damage, as they did in the '60s.

Wildlife management: A double-edged sword

OR many nature enthusi-asts, the very words "wildlife management" are anathema. They hold firmly to the belief that nature should be left alone and whatever is there is

But today, as more and more infringements upon natural areas are imposed by human activity it becomes obvious that if nature is to be allowed to flourish then there must be some competent and considerate management on the part of humans.

There are good arguments for both these views. Certainly, if anything is to be properly considered "nature" then it should be natural and free from human interference. This is, however, more idealistic than realistic because there is very little left on the face of the earth that has not been tampered with by human existence and interference and, in fact, a good part of real wildlife management consists of efforts to keep a balance between the needs of both human and animal while at the same time correcting past

A couple of years ago the

5 Confer honours on some Thebes townsfolk (6)

7 Born & died in poverty (4)

10 Vacancies in doorways (8)

12 Finding where the film

SOLUTIONS

6 Costly attack? (6)

excesses of errors...

D'YORA BEN SHAUL

Agriculture Ministry and the Natue Reserves Authority realized hat the populations of jack-als, wives and foxes had reached too hih a concentration in certain aras and decided that they should re reduced by selective shooting This caused a great deal of anguin to those who are glad that thesepredators are making a comeback

The reaons given were the severe depadations on livestock in the Goln and Galilee. The other reason was rabies control. Here, despit the fact that wild animals are ideed often infected with rabies, to argument is less valid. Unformately, whereas European courries have shown superb results by feeding wild predators with bit containing an oral rabies vacine, Israel still relies on the gunand the poison pill to control tis disease in

IN DECIDING to tauce a population of predators one must be

HIADDACIG

very careful. When there is an overpopulation of predators, it is not only farm animals but also gazelles, partridge and other small animals and birds which fall prey to them. Reduce the predator population too much, as was done in the massive campaigns of the '60s, and you get a population explosion of hares, partridge and other birds and animals that cause even more agricultural damage than the predators did.

When gazelles were allowed to multiply unchecked in the Ramot Yissachar area, they did severe damage to orchards and vegetable gardens as well as competing for pasture with local cattle. Furthermore, the gazelles served as a focal point for a massive outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease that almost wiped them out while destroying herds of cattle as well.

No one will ever be able to compute the damage that has been done by ill-conceived attempts to manage wildlife. "chaos theory" that says that the in the fear of defeat. more complicated a system the less predictable will be the outcome of any given change. Nature is certainly one of the most complicated systems.

Wildlife management is a tool for the protection of both humans and animals but it is a tool that must be used with the precision of a surgeon's scalpel and wielded by people who serve no vested human or animal interest but who have the knowledge and skill to do what is best for both popula-

Otherwise the errors of the past will simply be repeated.

Beersheba players take the honors

NICK KOPALOFF

GM Alex Finkel, IM Alik Vidsilver, and the Michaelevsky brothers, IMs Alex and Michael, split the NIS 2,650 winner's purse having all scored five points from the seven games. They fin-ished ahead of Michael Oratovsky, Boris Katzler, Leonid Schmuter and the surprise of the tournament Arkadi Shavlev, who all finished with 4.5 points.

The Grand Prix finals were the culmination of three hotly contested preliminary qualification tournaments.

THERE WERE fluctuating fortunes for Israel's blind chess team as it got off to a roller-coaster of a start in the nine-round chess

olympiad for the blind in Brazil. In Round 1 the Israelis defeated Denmark 3-1 only to get trounced in the second 3.5-0.5 by Sweden. Recovering in the third round, Israel triumphed over the Czech Republic 2.5-1.5, keeping the team in touch with the medal positions.

THE JERUSALEM Post is again sponsoring the Ben Samuel Best Game competition. A prize of NIS 400 will be awarded to the best game played in 1996, and a NIS 200 special prize will go to the best game by any player under the age of 16 on July 31, 1996. To enter please send your best game and annotations, details of when, where, and against whom it was played, and a photocopy of your identity card, to: Nick Kopaloff (chess), The Jerusalem Post, 5 Rehov Hamasger, Tel Aviv. All entries must be received by July 31, 1996.

AFTER FOUR rounds of FIDE's world championship 20-game defending champion Anatoly Karpov has edged ahead of his young challenger 2.5 - 1.5, having won game four with the black pieces in a Caro Kann

Many world championship games have a tendency to end in lackluster draws. But so far in this match, only one of the four games There is a statement made in the an have followed that pattern. The constructions of the the dimindering desire to win seems to with the dimindering the constructions of the construction
> Karpov, Anatoly – Kamsky, Elista 1996 Game 1 Grunfeld Defense, Simagin

(Smyslov) Variation 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 This was once considered a passive line and was avoided in favor of the main line 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 which gives White a steamroller of a center. But Karpov's less committed

approach, which was popularized

Vassily Smyslov, tends to keep

Avoid serving your family

former world champion

Shared first place in the Grand Prix final in Rishon zion last week.

The Grand Prix final in Rishon at the Grand Prix final in Rishon the Grand Prix final in Rishon at the Grand Prix final in Rishon the Grand Prix fi b5 13.Nxb5

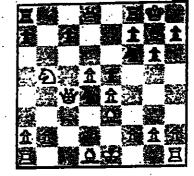


DIAGRAM 1 after White's 13th move

13...Nxe4?! The immediate undermining of the Karpov center does not prove as promising as Kamsky would have hoped. An exchange of the knight on b5 with 13. Nxb5 14.Qxb5 Nxe4 might have offered Kamsky greater scope for piece play. His g7 Bishop would have had more daylight and a black rook could have made its presence felt along the b

14.0-0 a6 15.Ne3 Nd6 16.Qd3 14.0-0 a6 15.Nc3 Nd6 16.Qd3 Qh4 17.g3 Qh3 18.Bxd4 exd4 19.Nc2 Qf5 20.Nf4 Rfb8 21.Qxf5 Nxf5 22.Nd3 Bh6 23.Rc1 a5 24.Bg4 Nd6 25.Rc2 a4 26.a3 Ra5 27.Rc2 Rxc7 Ra5 29.Bf3 Bg5 30.Rd1 Rc8 31.Rxc8+ Nxc8 32.h4 Bf6 33.Rc1 Nd6 34.Kf1 Bc7 35.Kc2 Kf2 36.Rc7 Bf6 37.Kd2 h5 Kf8 36.Rc7 Bf6 37.Kd2 h5 38.Ke2 Nf5 39.Rc4 Nd6 40.Rb4 Ra6 41.Ne5 Ra7 42.Kd3 Rc7 43.Nxn4 Rc1 44.Nb6 Bg7 45.a4 R21 46.Nd7+ Ke8 47.Nc5 Ke7 48.Kc2 Rf1 49.Nd3 Ra1 50.Kb3 f5 51.Rb6 Bh6 52.Bd5 g5 53.Ra6 gxh4 54.gxh4 Rd1 55.Bc4 Rh1 56.a5 Rxh4 1-0

IN THE following composition it looks as if White's resignation is well overdue. But in an extravagant sacrificial variation on the square vacation theme. White gets the last laugh. White to play

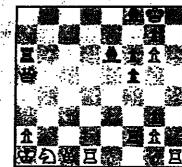


DIAGRAM 2 Solution: 1.Rh8+! Kxh8 2.Rh1+ Kg8 3.Rh8+! Kxh8 4.Qh1+. The double rook sacrifice was the only way to bring the queen over to the h! square. 4...Kg8 5.Qh7++ 1-0

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

24 Acknowledging universal

25 Banker in Cambridge,

26 Small creature said to have

going short distance, has included cracked valve

ACROSS

1 Build lodge (3,2) 4 London's outer defence? (8) 8 Prue's new bloke can be

found in Kent! (8) 9 Practised medicine although it had been

tampered with (8) 11 Tom's whistle? (?) 13 Bear down on with

removing centre from tree

15 Just the place for counter-intelligence! (11,4) 18 Working round the house

21 Some assist in eastern

chapel (7) 22 Baffle leading commander on base (8)

DOWN

operator (8)

possibilities (5)

1 Hopeless former accountant received call (4,6)

2 Officer part suggestion to

employees (8)

3 One having a share is on a level with rebellious Kate

QUICK CROSSWORD

1 Seize forcibly (5)

4 Out-and-out (6)

10 English author (5)

12 Vehicle shelter (7)

13 Chinese cooking

16 Shelter for doves

14 Eat away (4)

18 Rainy (3) 20 Welsh castle (7)

24 Gohlin (5)

26 Tune (6)

25 Word-book (7)

9 Unaffected (7)

11 Fish (4)

Redhead (8)

having had sufficient (6) 22 Smart bird lacking knowledge (4)

23 Make a dash for river (4) 4 Musicians not allowed to be heard (4)

production took place away from the studio (8) INSPIRED BY IN ERA 14 Although of little value, he will produce a burden (4-6) 16 Where to find information in the paper? (8) 17 Going to include cheer-leader who's thrilling (8) 19 Casual South African money order (6) 20 One turning up with an expression of disgust



Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS: 1 Ruff, 3 Dis ACROSS: 1 Ruff, 3 Diamonda, 9 Title, 19 Panacea, 11 Ode, 13 Surpassed, 14 Attach, 16 Senior, 18 Comundrum, 20 Yet, 22 Unicorn, 23 Chart, 25 Theorise, 26 Near. DOWN: 1 Ratio, 2 Fit, 4 Larpure, 5 Mandate, 6 Necessity, 7 Slander, 8 Mess, 12 Extensive, 14 Account, 15 or, 17 Drinks, 19 Muck, 21

DOWN

5 Send letters on (8)

6 Open insult (7)

8 Obstruct (5)

17 Regular beat (6) 18 Puppy (5)

13 Cajoled (8) 15 Tumult (7)

19 Bough (6)

22 Lawful (5)

23 Felled (4)

1 Roam (6)

2 Praise (5)

7XX(6)

3 Person from



Sole Representative in Israel POLEX MIDDLE EAST-LISTENBERG! TEL 03-6191666

pesticides for lunch GARDENING

THAVE read so much about the sprays used on our fruits and vegetables. Is it really important to protect my family from these pesticides? How can I do

D.J., Ra'anana. Most definitely yes, very important. Washing lettuce and other crops in water alone will remove only a small amount of the harmful substances.

Washing them in a diluted solution of vinegar or dishwashing detergent will remove most of these things and not harm the taste of your food, but do rinse well with clear water.

You are right to be concerned; it has become more and more important in recent years to take this precaution.

I am interested in saving water. Ve need so much water during trese hot days. I have heard that it i all right to use dishwashing and washing-machine water on the gurden. Does is matter if I use enbiodegradable or biodegradabe soaps? A.D. Bat Yam.

Use as little soap as possible. and choose biodegradable ones. Avod sodium-based compounds, mininize bleach and never use bora) compounds. Try not to spray the water on the leaves, just direct t onto the soil. Soaps are less likely to be harmful to your plants tran detergents. Try not to **INEZ KLIMIST**

direct this used water into the same spot (e.g. just outside the kitchen door) all the time. Use clean water in these spots between

Can polystyrene packing material be shredded and used in place of vermiculite?

T.R., Ramat Aviv Yes. It is an inert substance and does not biodegrade or release toxic substances into the soil. However, it replaces perlite, not vermiculite. Both of these substances hold water only on their surfaces, prompting faster drainage.

Polystyrene is lighter than perlite, making it more difficult to mix with soil. It floats to the surface when watered, so water from the bottom if possible, and moiston the soil before you mix in the

ON APRIL 28, in Jerusalem, Minna Givton died at the age of

She was born in London and came to live in Jerusalem in 1945, after which she was always in the forefront of community affairs.

Description the War of

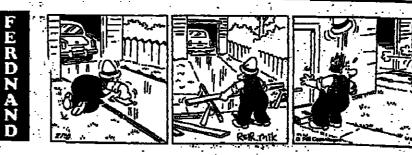
During the War of Independence and the siege of Jerusalem, she served as secretary to Dov Joseph, who was in charge of food rationing. For several years Minna was Alyn's manager of public relations. She was also active in many aspects of consumer affairs.

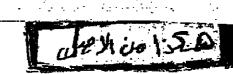
Gardening was always one of her consuming interests, and it was through gardening that I first met her. In 1978, realizing that local garden-lovers lacked a common meeting ground for the exchange of ideas and tips, she founded the Jerusalem

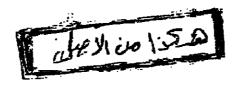
Horticultural Society. The society holds meetings in gardens of special interest, hears lectures related to horticulture, and has nearly 100 members. Over the years, as chairman, Minna tirelessly guided the society in the choice of interesting speakers and in the improvement of gardening in Jerusalem. At every meeting we learned something new. She will be sorely missed by those of us on the board of the society, as well as the mem-

We will be holding a small memorial service for Minna on June 24 at 6 p.m., at the visitors' center of the Botanical Garden at the Hebrew University's Givat Ram campus - in the gardens she loved so much

Her good friend Michael Avishai will speak about gardening in Jerusalem, and Teddy Kollek and some of Minna's other friends will speak in her honor. Please join us.









Youngsters develop great athletic prowess on their snowboards, but the activity damages the pistes.

Summertime, and the skiing is easy

UMMER skiing is the best of both worlds, and Zermatt is the best of all.

Zermatt, close to Switzerland's Italian border and not far from its French frontier, is a Swiss village dominated by what is probably the most singular mountain on this planet: the lofty, pyramid-shaped Matterhorn, which rises to a stark 4,478m. Its lower slopes are covered in forest, punctuated with picturesque alpine huts. Its majestic glacier-covered heights glisten with snow.

Your Zermatt vacation can begin with the four-hour trip from Geneva or five hours from Zurich, but if you want to do things in style, take the Glacier Express, from Chur to Zermatt. This comfortable train spends seven scenic hours chugging up high mountain passes and winding through low green valleys. Order your dinner in advance!

Once you get to the romantic care- and carfree village of Zermatt, settle into one of its many clean and comfortable chalet-type hotels, and then get your electronic ski-pass. The more days it covers, the cheaper the rate -. **WERNER BRAUN**

which doesn't mean that it's cheap. The cost for one week in summer is 218 Swiss francs (NIS 560), with a 25 percent discount for those older than 64.

If you are unwilling to spend an entire day walking up the mountain, then do it in 45 minutes by cable car, a trip which includes a 3km. stretch without a pylon in sight - the longest unsupported cable-car ride in the

The Little Matterhorn is where the skiing begins in earnest - some 4km. of well-serviced pistes (or, in winter, a 15km. downhill run from here to Zermatt). The Plateau Rosa and Theodul Pass are among the best-known ski runs. Like the smaller passes, they are of medium difficulty.

What skiers should beware of, however, even in summer (May is especially risky), is the weather, which can play dangerous tricks on this mountain. Heavy cloud sometimes makes skiing difficult, and strong winds will close the cable car. (There are no refunds.)

If you're looking for a guide, try Zermatt's legendary mountain man Ulrich Inderbiner, who was born in 1900 and is still probably fitter than most of us. He has scaled the Matterhorn more than 340 times, and nipped up other 4,000m, peaks a couple of thousand

The Matterhorn attracts climbers by the thousand. On any sunny weekend, you'll see more than 100 of them streaming uptowards the top of the rock.

If climbing down is more your taste, one nice summer-only suggestion is to take walking shoes with you in your backpack. Once you've finished skiing, leave boots and skis in the lockers at Furi (2 Swiss francs), and take a wonderful walk down this quintessentially Swiss mountain back to Zermatt.

The skiing above Zermatt is not especially difficult, but you should take preliminary lessons on Mount Hermon before ackling Switzerland. Also, if you've passed the first flush of youth, check with a doctor to make sure your heart can cope with the thirder air at

ny also provides customers with a

advantage of ski vacations organized by Air New Zealand. The

price of a 14-day package, includ-

ing visits to Australia and

EL AL is now offering direct

flights to three new destinations in

the US: Atlanta, San Francisco

Bangkok, is \$2,590.

Economy or business? It's a class struggle

HAIM SHAPIRO

director-general of one major

European airline. "Israel has

always been considered a

For years, during the Arab boy-

cott, Israel was virtually cut off from the rest of the Middle East. It

was, for administrative purposes,

considered part of the European

network, not only by the airlines,

but by many international busi-

The same airline official pointed

out that Israel was a very different

market from the Arab states.

There are far more flights

between Israel and Europe than

between Arab capitals and

Europe. As a result, the fares from Israel to Europe are also cheaper

than those from the neighboring

These days, although the fares remain lower, Israel is becoming

more a part of the Middle East. As

often as not, the same district

manager of a travel company may

deal with Israel, Egypt and

Jordan, and even Saudi Arabia

and the Gulf States. But the air-

lines move more slowly, especial-

LAST YEAR, Ma'ariv aviation

reporter Ami Ettinger conducted

an extensive survey of virtually

all the business-class air service to

Israel. As a result of the long-

haul/short-haul factor, his conclu-

sion was that El Al provided the

ly when it costs them money.

European destination."

ness organizations.

Arab countries.

UESTION: When is business class no different from economy class? Answer. When it's a flight from

Individuals and businesses pay hundreds of Bollars more per ticket for themselves and their employees! to travel business class. They want to be pampered with extra service. They want better food. Most of all, they want to stretch out and relax without being cramped.

However, there are different classes of business class. Not only do airlines differ in the degree of pampering they give passengers, but an airline might offer more to some passengers on some routes than those on others. The airlines differentiate between what they define as long-run and short-run flights. On a short run, the seats are/often narrower and closer together than on long runs, and other goodies may be missing. These amenities are more than just a matter of pampering.

/Many businesses routinely hand their representatives businessclass tickets so they arrive fresh, relaxed and ready to do their jobs. A negotiator who falls asleep during meetings can cost a business far more than the difference in

Where Israel comes into the picture is that virtually all European airlines define a flight to Ben-Gurion Airport as a short run, rather than an intercontinental flight. What makes the matter even more irritating is that such destinations as Amman and Beirut are considered long hauls.

best business class from Israel. He admitted that many of the European airlines had better longhaul facilities on board, but these "The reason is historic." said the could not compensate for the shortcomings of their short-haul services. However, the picture may be changing. KLM has introduced what it calls its World Business Class on one flight a week, aboard a new Boeing 767. As the guest of KLM on one of the 767's first flights here, I indeed found a degree of comfort beyond that common on such

flights. On the flight, business passengers sit in the special wide seats typical of long-range business class, not economy seats which may have been altered. A twotwo-two configuration with wide aisles means that no businessclass passenger is squeezed between two others. The meal served was breakfast, so I cannot say a great deal about the food, except that the coffee was out-

The seats include an adjustable footrest and lower-back support, plus wings on the headrest to cradie your head when you sleep. There is even a contoured pillow. For those seeking entertainment, there are personal video screens with a choice of several channels, but the traveling businessman may actually be more appreciative of the fact that every seat has its own telephone.

So far, the new 767 and the World Business Class are available on one flight a week, leaving Amsterdam on Sunday morning and returning from Ben-Gurion

early Sunday evening.

There is hope for the future. KLM says that it intends to extend the World Business Class to all its flights to Israel. Perhaps the other European airlines will follow suit.

How to keep your child from driving you just plane nuts

90 keep a child - and the other passengers around you - happy in flight, author Natalie Windsor advises parents to:

• Carry plentiful snacks (avoid messy ones) and liquids, such as fruit juices in cartons or water in a non-spill bottle. Peanuts are messier than crackers, she says.

• Pack non-spill puzzles and games, books and comic books, and other amusements that will keep a child entertained for more than a few minutes. She suggests estimating your child's attention span at a single task (say 20 minutes) and dividing this into the flight time (say three hours). This you will need - in this example. nine (three per hour). Everything should all fit in a small busy bag. Don't pack toys that make noise.

• Bring gum or carrot sticks to chew on in case your child starts to suffer from aching ears caused by pressure change • Invite your child to help pack his or her suitcase. It is a way of engaging them in the trip.

• To a young first-time flyer, explain what is happening each step of the way during the trip. The biggest thing children tell me," Windsor says, "is that when yon're a kid you don't know what's happening. That's scary."

 Book a window seat for your child, so he or she can watch the clouds or the landscape below.

 Dress your child in loose, easy-to-change clothing and

comfortable shoes. Layered clothing, which can be taken off or put back on, enables the child to adjust to different in-flight temperatures.

· Acquaint your child with inflight good manners: Don't kick the seats in front of you. Don't tap on your tray table or flick it open and closed. Don't play with the window shade. Don't drop trash on the floor. Don't play with the reclining seat. Don't walk up and down the aisle for no reason. And don't yell or scream.

(Washington Post)

Vacations for the wealthy, and the rest of us including insurance. The compa-

ESPITE an abundance of package vacations abroad, Eilat remains a popular summer destination. At a recent conference on internal tourism, local hoteliers noted that a fournight vacation in a four-star hotel in the Red Sea resort can cost less: than NIS 1,000 per person, including round-trip airfare.

For those who don't have to count their agorot, the Radisson Moriah Plaza Eilat now has a special luxury wing, the Plaza Club, with 15 king-size rooms, each with its own color scheme and private Jacuzzi. Prices per room range from \$350 to \$500 a night, according to season.

FOR THE Western Galilee Culinary Festival now underway, the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel is offering a series of packages, including lodging, gastronomic meals, and a variety of hikes, tours and musical events. Prices range from NIS 230 per person for one night in a rural lodging to NIS 1,280 for three

PICKING apples is fun," says David Leichman, "for the first 15 minutes."

Leichman is the director of the

Israel Experience at Kibbutz

Gezer, a project which aims at

imparting a little more to young

people in the five days they spend

on a kibbutz, during their sum-

mer-in-Israel program, than they

might get picking apples.
"What they remember is their

work," says Leichman, who also

teaches a course on the kibbutz to

overseas students at Tel Aviv

University.
When the kids come to Gezer,

he says, they will be building the

Land of Israel. Specifically, they will be continuing in the building of Gezer's Pinat Shorashim (roots

This year, they are building an

outdoor synagogue. It is to be part of the large complex that aheady

includes such features as a Path of

the Seven Species, a succa with a

٦

HAIM SHAPIRO

nights at the Mitzpe Hayamim spa. For information and reserva. ... ther afield, a six-night package in tions, tel. (03) 638-8659. Aruba bin the Dutch Antilles, is

A NEW YOUTH hostel has been set up at Kibbutz Tzora. The hos-14 TOOM for five occupants.

FOR A QUICK visit to Petra, Arkia now has a weekly Saturday tour, leaving Sde Dov at 6:30 a.m. and returning at about 10 p.m. The price of \$259 for adults and \$233 for children includes flights to and from Eilat and hunch at Petra.

Other package tours available now are: Seven-days at Loutraki, near Athens, from \$538, by Arkia; seven nights in Rhodes from \$409 or in Crete from \$546, by Century 2000; seven nights in Sicily from \$631, and seven nights in Madeira from \$993, by Saviv Ha'olam.

Carrot roots

HAIM SHAPIRO

plete with a wine press, a pita oven and an olive tree, to provide

Not far off is Tel Gezer, where

archeologists found the Gezer

Calendar, with the earliest exam-

ple of Hebrew writing, dating from the time of Solomon.

Alongside is another historical

landmark, more recent but per-

haps more poignant. It is the military cemetery where 29 of the first settlers, from 12 Diaspora

communities, were laid to rest,

having been killed in one after-

noon when attacks by the

Jordanian Arab Legion and local

Arab villages wiped out a third of

The core of the present kibbutz

membership are Americans who

immigrated following the Six Day

War. It is no accident that Israel's

diamond,

the members.

bread, wine and Shabbat light.

booklet of vouchers/offering discounts at attractions, restaurants, For those who want to go furand hotels. SKI ENTHUSIASTS who can't being offered by Sky Hakikar for bear to wait until winter can take

been arranged by Geographical Tours-Neot Hakikar. In addition to the usual sights, participants can sail on a yacht, take walking tours and jeep excursions, and go rafting and kayaking down a river. The price for the eight-day tour is

A TOUR OF Moscow, St. Petersburg and the Baltic states of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia is being offered by Lis Travel and Tours. The price of a 14-day tour including flights is \$1,795.

HERTZ IS offering a rental car for a week in Florida from \$145, and in California from \$183, both

link of the Jewish people to the

He notes that studies have

shown that a summer-in-Israel

program has more of an effect on

a Jewish youngster in terms of retaining Jewish identity than 12

years of a Hebrew day school.

Leichman wants to intensify that

experience. He wants the kids to

be able to come back to see what

"We're not trying to get them to live on a kibbutz," he says.

However, he adds, the project

does try to show that the kibbutz

is a valid Jewish community, with

its own approach to Jewish and

Zionist values. The participants not only do the work, but also par-

ticipate in the planning. They learn, for example, that they have to cooperate in order to plan and

lay out a mosaic or even to set a

Although during these summer months most of the young people

at Gezer are on summer-in-Israel

programs, the Israel Experience is

available for a large variety of

groups, with varying degrees of observance and Jewish back-

Land of Israel.

they have built.

path with stones.

ground.

A return to Jewish roots... LITHUANIA LATVIA

The Baltic States, before the Holocaust home to hundreds of thousands of Jews, is only now, after the demise of the Soviet Union, welcoming visitors.

With an English-speaking guide from Geographical Tours, we'll visit Vilna, the "Jerusalem of Lithuania" and tour its ghetto, synagogues, memorials, etc. Then to Kovna (Kaons) and Riga (visiting the old city, garden of statues, etc.) and the Ramboli Forest. Next on the itinerary is Tallin, capital of Estonia on the Gulf of Finland, with its port and old city. From there we'll continue to St. Petersburg (Leningrad), Russia's second largest city. We'll visit its museums, the Czar's Winter Palace, the worldfamous Hermitage Museum, the Peter and Paul Fortress, the cruiser Aurora (where the 1917 revolution started), the Piskaryovskoje Cemetery, and stroll along the banks of the Nieva River and the renowned Nievsky Prospect.

We'll stay in first-class or quality tourist hotels, travel in air-conditioned buses, be accompanied by a full-time English-speaking guide from Geographical Tours in Israel, and a local guide where necessary. The price includes all this plus the round-trip flight, half board accommodations (breakfast and evening meal) and admission to all sites. No Shabbat travel. Vegetarian menu available.

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vine and a fig tree, an Isaiah official baseball and softball diasculpture garden - including a lion and a lamb - and a Garden of mond is at the kibbutz. For Eden sandbox for children sur-Leichman, the proximity of the rounded by a large cement snake. baseball Shorashim, the tell and the mili-There is also a Havdala garden, with aromatic herbs, and a tary cemetery are symbolic of the Kabbalat Shabbat comer, comingathering of the exiles and the

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A tri-generation affair

GREER FAY CASHMAN

TOT only is Binyamin Netanyahu the first Israeli prime minister born after the establishment of the state and the first to enter office with children under the age of five. He is also the first with two living parents as well as two living parentsin-law to witness his triumph.

Son Yair, who attended the opening session of the 14th Knesset, stole some of his father's thunder when he fell asleep in the gallery. The event was just not exciting enough to keep him

THE CHANGE of government has apparently inspired a sartorial revolution. Agricultural and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan, who last month turned up at his own wedding in an open-necked shirt, uncharacteristically donned jacket and tie for the presentation of the new government to President Ezer Weizman. Eitan's penchant for informality was usurped by Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, who turned up sans tie and jacket, Education Minister Zevulun Hammer wore a jacket, but no tie. Ariel Sharon was of course not in the picture, and one wonders if the gang will all troop back for take two to ensure that posterity gets the full frame.

ISRAEL RESOURCES director David Bedein, who is frequently quoted in the foreign media, was asked at the beginning of this week to hazard a guess about the role Sharon may play in the political arena. Too experienced to risk a portfolio projection, Bedein's forecast was "a thankless task."

IF THE Norwegian Law obliging ministers to forfeit their Knesset seats is passed, former MK Ruby Rivlin will be one of the first of those waiting in the wings to sprint into parliament. Rivlin, who celebrated too soon after the Likud primaries, was one of the sacrificial lambs in the Likud-Gesher-Tsomet alliance.

Rivlin's friends are exploring every possible avenue to make a legislator again. They have been lobbying Eliahu Ben-Elissar, whose name has been mentioned in connection with the about-to-bevacated ambassadorship to the US. If Ben-Elissar goes to Washington, they reason, Rivlin can get into the Knesset. But Ben-Elissar, for his part, is none too keen. If he had been interested in going to Washington, he said, he wouldn't have campaigned so hard to retain his parliamentary seat.

WOMEN MAY have lost ground in the Knesset, but they appear to be well represented at the upcoming World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency assembly in

Hadassah president Marlene Post hosted a pre-assembly hincheon for some 40 women leaders at Hadassah College, not just to make a statement about womanpower, but also to promote the



Those present at a luncheon hosted by Hadassah president Marlene Post (center) included (from left) Amit president Evelyn Blachor, Sylvia Lewis of Na'amat, Helena Glaser of WIZO, Raya Jaglom of WIZO, Hadassa-WIZO Canada president Judy Mandelman and Bernice Tenenbum of

catering talents of students from Hadassah's hotel management school. Conversation was mostly about the need to pool efforts to make more leadership roles avail-

As far as joint efforts go, some of those present found that they could dance at two weddings at the same time. Post for instance, is also a member of Amit, while Amit president Evelyn Blachor is also a member of Hadassah. Others in attendance included Raya Jaglom, Michal Moda'i and Helena Glaser from WIZO, Sylvia Lewis of Na'amat USA, Judy Mandelman, president of Hadassah-WIZO Canada, and former Hadassah presidents and ongoing stalwarts Charlotte Jacobson, Bernice Tenenbaum and Ruth Popkin.

FEMINISTS WHO are complaining that women have not come far enough in the struggle for equal opportunities, should speak to Nava Karmiel who, in the course of doing an MA thesis on Jerusalem's Nahlaot neighborhood, interviewed numerous veteran residents of Kurdish extraction who told her that in Kurdistan, women never dined together with their husbands, but ate the scraps from their husbands' food. It was only after they came to Israel that they sat down at the same table at the same time and ate from their own plates. Now that's real progress.

IT WILL be a long time before Israeli soldiers can put their weapons away, opined President Ezer Weizman, who was guest of honor at a gala dinner presented as a Salute to Israel's Soldiers at the Dan Hotel, Tel Aviv. Weizman made a brief appearance at the affair cosponsored by the Open University, Soldiers' Scholarship Fund and Friends of the Open University.

The Open University is the only facility which can provide acade-

total stocks issued and redeemed by the company.



Tuvia Tsafir provided a lighter side to a gala dinner presented as a Salute to Israel's Soldiers.

mic courses for soldiers doing compulsory service, OU president Prof. Menahem Ya'ari said. OU director Issachar Goldrat said over 8,300 soldiers and civilian women doing national service in non-military environments are studying in OU programs. He said he doubted that any other country could claim as high a ratio of soldiers engaged in academic studies

Of eight scholarships awarded to students whose grades had all been in the 90-plus bracket, one went to a woman. Sarit Sha'ar. who has embarked on a second year of national service.

On the lighter side of the evening, national lampooms. Tuvia Tsafir proved that he was as up-to-date as the electronic media, and the new additions to his repertoire were spot-on. Helping papa raise a laugh was Tsafir's 21-yearold daughter Shiomit. Though a talented entertainer herself, she is studying social work at Tel Aviv University. Weizman expressed regret at leaving before Tsafir's performance, and voiced a desire to impersonate the impersonator.

"IT'S AN east-west alliance," enthused Liverpudlian Solly Goldman who with his wife June came to Israel to celebrate the marriage of their son Laurence David Goldman to Iris David, daughter of Sylvia and David David of Herzliya who are of Yemenite and Iraqi background. Officiating at the lavish reception at the Tel Aviv Country Club was Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, a friend of the bride's family. Among the 400 guests from Israel and abroad was Wolf Kantor, deputy grand master of the Israel Freemasons. Both Goldman senior and junior are also Freemasons.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP is apparently in the Bronfman genes. Yisrael Ba'aliya MK Roman Bronfman said in a radio interview this week that he was related to the Canadian Bronfmans, who between them hold or have held senior executive positions on the boards of the overwhelming majority of international Jewish organizations. Not as succinct as his Canadian cousins, the local Bronfman has not yet mastered the art of speaking in sound bites. In . fact, he is so tenacious and so laborious in getting his point across that if he wasn't a member of the coalition, his verbosity might well have made him the new filibuster champion.

OUT OF Babylon.... Tel Aviv's Mann Auditorium became a temporary Iraqi enclave last Thursday night as Iraqi expatriates here and abroad gathered to share childhood memories. Among them were former internal security minister Moshe Shahal, Keren Hayesod chairman and former Knesset speaker Shlomo Hillel, former chief of general staff Moshe Levy and Ramat Gan Mayor Zvi Bar.

Virtual-reality soap opens to a packed House

MICHAL YUDELMAN

the nation had expected a spectacle for the formation of Lihe first ever government put together under a directly elected leader, it certainly got it.
Unfortunately, it was only the

spectacle of the same old charlatans making an even bigger spectacle of themselves than ever.

Once again, political reality in Israel surpassed the cheapest kind of pulp fiction. It was more bizarre than a Brazilian soap opera, more ridiculous than the Seinfeld team's much ado about nothing, and more nerve-racking than The X-Files - without being half so intelligent. If the truth is out there, the question

Power battles in the Likud leadership, intrigue and suspense right up to the Knesset climax, last-minute unexpected developments, and a cliffhanger "to be continued in the morning": it could all have been from a scriptwriters' training manu-

Great for the ratings perhaps, but what about the country, or is it also to live now in virtual reality?

Parliamentarians in the Knesset were shamefaced. It was so bad, even Labor didn't gloat. It was left to lots of Likud members, of all people, to say that it had all been a fiasco, a shambles and a disgrace.

PUTSCH AND SHOVE

By the daytime, when the govemment was to be presented in the Knesset, rumbles of discontent in the Likud had turned to a rebellious roar. A group of nine Likud MKs reportedly went so far as to plot a putsch against Netanyahu.

They called Ariel Sharon in his Shikmim Farm and asked him to lead them. They suggested not voting in support of Netanyahu's cabinet, thus aborting the fetal government and bringing about new elec-

Sharon rejected the idea, and on reflection, the MKs themselves decided Netanyahu would probably form an immediate national unity government with Labor.

Many Labor supporters who listened to Shimon Peres deliver his powerful speech in the Knesset were aroused not to emotion, but to astonished anger.

So where the heck had he been when we needed him with powerful speeches? fumed habor MKS.
"If he had shown such fighting spirit during the election campaign, he couldn't have lost," said one former Labor minister.

GRADE SCHOOL

Most senior Likud members were either insulted, humiliated or dwarfed. Instead of being boosted up to the next class, they were kicked out of school altogether or, if lucky, held back a grade. Those who made it to Bibi Netanyahu's cabinet had been roughed up a little in the playground and staggered in bruised and scarred.

Katsav was demoted to tourism minister. Meridor made it by the skin of his teeth, but only after it was made clear to him that the headmaster would rather not have him in his school. Sharon stayed back a grade, wanting to spend a little more time with his sheep, no

Whatever he gets, he will retain the mark on his forehead, the one that says the new powers in the Likud did not think he deserved a real ministry. The patchwork quilt they had to stitch together for him after David Levy twisted an arm or two will just have to do. There are so many soldiers left

wounded in the battlefield, said MK Pini Badash, "they've turned us into peons and robotricks." Netanyahu had made too many

promises to too many people, said another, there simply was no way he could keep them all.



Those who made it to Netanyahu's cabinet had been roughed up a little in the playground and staggered in bruised and scarred.



MK Amor: The intention to have a Norwegian law or a Moroccan law is a stinking (David Rubinger)



MK Ben-Elissar: They stabbed me in the back and then twisted the knife! (Harari)

Likud MKs openly protested : Netanyahu's plan to postpone the election of the Knesset Speaker until the "Norwegian law" is passed, obliging cabinet members to vacate Knesset seats. This is so Ovadia Eli could enter the Knesset and promptly be appointed

They stabbed me in the back and then twisted the knife," said MK Eliahu Ben-Elissar after his hopes of being elected Speaker

were thwarted. This was also a blow to MK Dan Tichon, who understood that he was in for the post. A furious Tichon boycotted the Knesset ceremony accepting the new govern-

"It's political rookery. They have no idea of what Knesset work means, what a Knesset committee's job is, or of how import the Speaker's job is," he said.

MK Shaul Amor, another hopeful wannabe Speaker, added that "the intention to have a Norwegian law or a Moroccan law is anti-parliamentary, anti-democratic and anti-Likud. It's a stinking manenver."

"Why don't they give the chair-manship of the Likud Knesset faction to Shas and have done with it?" another MK suggested.

Likud MKs felt that Netanyahu had held a "liquidation sale" of all the party's assets and positions in the Knesset. Their mood was reflected by former tourism minister Uzi Baram's story of the Likud colleague who

with all the Arab states." "How so?" Baram wondered. "Simple. He'll agree to every-thing they demand of him."

ran into him in the Knesset and

said: "You should be happy.

Netanyahu will bring rapid peace

FORGOTTEN MAN It somehow passed without notice that the new Knesset's swearing-in ceremony took place without anyone, except former prime minister Shimon Peres, mentioning the murder of Yitzhak Rabin

Rabin's old friend and office director Shimon Sheves vented his anger at President Ezer Weizman, "who did not see fit to mention, even with a hint, the murder of the prime minister, the only reason for early elections and a new Knesset. I am ashamed of the president... he just ignored it and went on to daily matters. It's a disgrace."

"Most of the public has already forgotten Rabin's murder," said former industrialist David Moshevitz, the man who published an ad of the association "We Won't Forget," citing the biblical proverb "Hast thou murdered and taken

New Education Minister Zevulun Hammer rushed to the Attorney General's Office to demand charging Moshevitz with incitement to

Odd, said Labor MKs, Hammer's voice was strangely silent in the really inciteful days before the

HIKE HITCHER

Not a good week for the workers. Inflation hit the 15 percent mark and a new finance minister promising economic edicts was sworn in. What better time for the Histadrut

to rally to the workers' cause? Histadrut Chairman MK Amir Peretz, whose hour, long delayed, had arrived, leaped into action. He demanded activating the cost-ofliving increment agreement so that compensation for wage erosion due to inflation could be increased.

Peretz said the Histadrut had greed with employers that when inflation exceeded 15 percent a year, workers must receive full compensation for price hikes.

But lo, when the agreements were pulled out, it appeared that Pereiz and the employers had agreed to increase the compensation only for an inflation rate of more than 15 percent per half year.

Negligent amateur was the most complimentary title Peretz was awarded in trades union circles. "What a schlemiel," was more Why, said union leaders, the

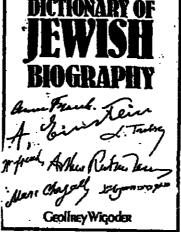
employers couldn't have done better themselves to ensure workers' pay doesn't keep step with the soaring price indices.

Soon, they hissed, we'll have employers paying the Histadrut's fees out of their own pockets, just to make sure it survives under the weight of its own ineptitude.

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Date of specifications: June 20, 1996. According to the specifications: 1. The bidder is interested to acquire from the stockholders 20,920,555 regular stocks of NIS 1 each of the

company, which constitute 25% of the total stocks issued and redeemed by the company. 2. The bidder will pay NIS 2.80 (280%) for each 1 shekel whole stock to be acquired by him in the context of the sale purchase offer. The closing price of the stocks on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange as of June 19,

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Stock Exchange Ltd., to the Registrar of Corporations, and to Y.O.E.L. Jerusalem Oil Exploration Ltd.

("the Company"), a program of offer of acquisition, according to the specifications of the regulations of

offers for acquisition, addressed all the holders of regular stock of NIS 1 of the Company (below: "the stocks"), to acquire from the stockholders 20,920,555 shares in the company, constituting 25% of the

1996 was NIS 2.27 (227%). 3. A precondition of the bidder's commitment to purchase the stocks under the proposal is that the minimum degree of response be no less than 25% of all the stocks offered and redeemed by the company, that is, not less than NIS 20,920,555 regular shekel stocks. Should the degree of response be less than that amount, the bidder is permitted not to acquire any stocks, or to acquire all of the stocks

that have been proposed in practise under the conditions of the offer of purchase. 4. The offer of purchase will be executed by means of exchange member, the Bank Igud Le-Israel Ltd. (below: coordinator of the offer), by the method detailed in the specifications. The coordinator of the offer will assure the execution of the bidder's obligation to pay the amount specified in the purchase offer.

5. One may present statements of acceptability between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on each of the days between June 20 - July 4, 1996 inclusive (date of acceptance).

A task for Sharon

THE difference between the ecent elections' major protagofists, a senior aide to Shimon Peres said this week, was that the bcumbents were busy planning the aftermath of a sure victory, and ignoring the race itself, while their rivals concentrated all their efforts on winning the elections, but neglected to think of how to handle things should they actually win.

Indeed, judging by this week's events, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu not only lacked a solid line-up of potential ministers, but apparently believed he would be able to simultaneously humiliate all his potential rivals within Likud. The Knesset's chaotic opening session highlighted the new premier's personnel problems.

But most alarming is the manner in which national interests are being ground thin while Ariel Sharon's personal fate is being determined.

Any accidental tourist arriving here at a perennially clogged Ben-Gurion Airport, who upon exiting it searches in vain for a rail link to the nearest city, and, when finally on the highway, wimesses our morbidly dancing, accident-generating array of semitrailers, buses and tankers whose cargoes - in normal countries - are carried by trains, may wonder why it should take a political armageddon to assemble a government agency which

can put an end to this chaos. Yes, the government needs to cut its budget, slash taxes and generate growth; but it also to comprehensively revamp all its transport-related

The snail's pace progress of

such essential projects as the expansion of Ben-Gurion Airport, the construction of the Trans-Israel Highway, the mod-emization of the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem railway or the introduction of a rail link to Eilat is intolerable: it stifles business, and, more importantly, it kills

A government that would successfully complete such projects would win the public's heart, since it would reduce highway congestion, shorten travel times. reduce car accidents, and expand the tourism industry, which is currently designed to accommodate not much more than Ben-Gurion's limited annual absorp-

The man most suited to tackle the formidable task of moving all the bureaucrats, politicians, environmentalists and interest groups (like train-scared Egged) who currently stand in the way of these projects, is Ariel Sharon.

The reasons which may have made Sharon unsuitable for the Treasury - namely his unruly character, political inclinations and lack of business savvy - are not necessarily a threat in the prospective infrastructure ministry. If anything, there his controversial energies find a perfect outlet and do us all plenty of good.

Parochially motivated and administrative novices like

Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush and Transport and Energy Minister Yitzhak Levi should not be allowed to interfere with the establishment of the infrastructure ministry. It would be tragic if they, who supported Sharon under controversial circumstances, would now block his way back to the consensus.

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Frenkel: Ministers should balance goals with national interest

Jerusalem Post Staff

CABINET ministers should balance their desires to satisfy particular constituencies with their duty to serve the national interest, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel told The Jerusalem Post

Frenkel, who appeared concerned that commitments to its coalition partners might burden the new government's road to macro-economic recovery, said that a government's economically defining moments are in the beginning of its term. He also said a strategic decision concerning budget cuts would need to be taken soon, due to this year's unplanned fiscal expansion.

He said the new government should focus on the creation of conditions which would allow sustainable growth, a reduction of inflation to the low-single-digit levels which currently exist among the industrialized powers. and continued reforms aimed at deregulation, trade liberalization, and full lifting of all foreign-currency related limitations.

To that end, the government will



Jacob Frenkel - Beginning of term is critical.

thus avoid business-unfriendly

have to cut the budget in a way that would narrow the fiscal deficit, while contributing to a long-term reduction of government intervention. He said the current 34 percent

development aid offered investors in high priority areas should be cut. Plans currently offered by the government are full of deformities," he said, and need urgent rationalization according to a gradual timetable that would be

Frenkel also reiterated his long-

standing view that taxes should hot be raised, monetary policy should reflect long-term antiinflationary goals, and that the cabinet should declare long-term, numerically defined macro-economic targets.

He said privatization does not not necessarily have to be done in ways that sound threatening to

"The 70 kilometers is already

Reacting to series of sugges-

out to international tender," said

Arie Shabtai, the spokesman for

tions from Eitan, the company,

which is responsible for managing

the road's construction, said the

conditions of the highway were

fixed by the National Council for

"The conditions were agreed

after a long process of profes-sional discussions and the com-

pany is working according to

Until now the Environment

"What the minister is proposing

Ministry has opposed the planned

is something new which we must look at in detail," said ministry

So far, he continued, the sugges-

tion is only skeletal in format. It is unclear if Eitan's plan scheme

would take parts of the road over

spokesman Yiftah Kremer.

planning guidelines,"

Cross-Israel Highway Ltd.

Planning and Construction.

added Shabtai.

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

The slowdown in retail trading growth continued last month, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday. The CBS recorded growth of 0.7 percent, following 0.9% in April, and an average 1.1% for February and March. Food sales followed the same pattern - growth having slowed to 0.8% from an average of 1.35% for the first four months of 1996. The overall figures take into account sales of food, textiles, footwear, and durable goods, but do not include vehicle sales, or purchases of domestic fuels.

Madge to open plant in Jerusalem

JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

MADGE Networks, a leading international supplier of computer communication equipment, yesterday announced plans to invest \$10 million in a new factory in lerusalem's Manahat Technology

On Wall Street, news of the company's plans caused Madge shares to rise moderately by \$.25 to \$14.625 in early morning trading.

The factory is expected to begin operating in January and will allow the company to double local

productivity.

"Madge Israel is undergoing a process of expansion," said direc-tor-general Shmuel Levy, adding that since Madge's merger with Lannet last year, the company's

workforce has grown by 30 percent. "We plan to continue grow-

Madge currently employs 400 people in Israel and has major business centers in Tel Aviv. London, Hong Kong, Tokyo, and San Jose, California.

The company, which originated ATM, Ethernet, ISDN and Token Ring technology, recently intro-duced its Visage family of stackable Ethernet switches, which, using the same principle as a telephone switchboard, allows data to be transmitted quickly through local area networks. The Visage units allow network managers to add additional users and serves without slowing performance.

Eitan calls to move Trans-Israel Highway

fully revealed in advance, and

AGRICULTURE

Environment Minister Rafael Eitan yesterday called for a reevaluation of the route of the Trans-Israel Highway, suggesting part of it be moved eastward.

Details of the proposal are still sketchy, but it is known Eitan wants to investigate the option of building tunnels so some of the road can be located underground. This, at the same time, would allow for the construction of shelters and storerooms, the lay-

DAVID HARRIS ing of electric cables and/other

infrastructure items, explained Eitan. The road segment whose route he would like to adjust is between

Yad Binyamin (northeast of Ashkelon) and Wadi Ara, southeast of Haifa. Of the planned 90-kilometer strip in the central region, 70 km has already received statutory approval, with the remaining 20 km still in the

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Westinghouse to buy **Infinity Broadcasting**

NEW YORK (AP) - CBS owner Westinghouse Electric Corp. said yesterday it will buy the company behind outspoken radio show host Howard Stern for \$3.9 billion. bringing together the two biggest players in the radio-station busi-

The deal for Infinity Broadcasting Corp., which also airs the Don Imus show, follows Westinghouse's \$5.4b. purchase of CBS Inc. last year. It also follows recent announcements that Westinghouse would expand its broadcast operations and might darate broadcasting from its industrial businesses.

Westinghouse's all-stock purchase would create a radio-station operator with 83 stations and revenue of about \$1b. a year, the companies said in a statement announcing the deal. Aside from the television network, CBS owns

15 TV stations. The new radio group will operate in 16 markets, with 69 of the stations in the top 10 markets, including New York and Los Angeles. A majority of Infinity shareholders have already agreed to back the transaction, the statement said.

This is the right deal, with the right partner, in the right industry. We're building on strength, com-bining two blue chip radio fran-chises," said Michael H. Jordan, chairman and chief executive of Westinghouse. Infinity, the biggest independent

radio company in the US and the second-largest overall, owns and distributes The Howard Stern Show and Imus in the Morning. Westinghouse, well-known for the CBS network, TV stations, and a news division anchored by Dan Rather, is the nation's No. 1 radio company.
It is unclear whether the merger

will raise antitrust objections. News of the deal comes amid a flurry of mergers in the radio

The companies said that by owning clusters or radio stations in large markets, they will become

more efficient with greater reach and lower costs. Westinghouse said it will continue to build on advantages where radio stations are in the same markets as CBS TV stations. Mel Karmazin, the founder of

Infinity, will lead the combined radio unit. Karmazin is among the Infinity shareholders group holding the majority of voting shares that agreed to vote for the

recommended Jordan bas Karmazin become Westinghouse board member after the deal is completed.

Terms of the deal call for Infinity stockholders to receive 1.71 Westinghouse shares for each share they own. It is expected to be completed by year's end, following regulatory approval.

The deal follows a recent

revamping of telecommunications law that led the Federal Communications Commission to loosen rules on ownership - at the urging of companies like Infinity. Pittsburgh-based Westinghouse, the merger comes

as it redefines itself as a media company. Traditionally a force in heavy industry, Westinghouse makes electric generators, refrig-erated vehicles, and other goods.

The purchase also comes as Westinghouse works to whittle down debt. For example, it sold its defense-related electronics systems business to Northrop Grumman Corp. for \$3b. earlier

In contrast, New York-based Infinity has been a prolific buyer of radio stations. In March, taking advantage of the new deregulation, it spent \$410 million on a dozen stations in five big markets, following an earlier purchase of seven stations for \$275m.

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Rates	Andrew Peck (Listed)	\$190	\$100	\$150
	Charles Settweb	\$166	\$287	\$430
And	Merrill Lynch	\$5.77	\$1230	\$2430
Save	Source: Telephone quotes, May 1:	. 168	•	

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Japanese yen (100)	1.8935	1.9245	1.86	1.98	1.9119
Dutch florin	2.5783	2,6199	2.53	2.66	2.6019
Swiss tranc Swedish krona	0.4885	0.4964	0.4B	0.51	0.4937
	0.4962	0.5043	0.48	0.52	0.5007
Norwegian krone	0.5513	0.5602	0.54	0.57	0.5584
Danish krone	0.6975	0.7088	0.68	0.72	0.7042
Finnish mark				2.44	2.3880
Canadian dollar	2.3840	2.4022	2.32	2.44 2.63	2.5737
Australian dollar	2.5501	2.5913	2.50	2.03 0.76	2.3/3/ 0.7481
S. African rand	0.7415	0.7535	0.57	1.07	1.0412
Belgian franc (10)	1.0318	1.0485	1.01	3.11	3.0453
Austrian schilling (10)	3.0172	3.0659	295	2.18	2.1271
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Irish punt	5.1290	5.2118		5.29 2.80	3.1764 2.5413
Spanish peseta (100)	2.5179	2.5588	2.47	260	2,3413

Key Representative Rates US dollar ... NIS 3.2636 + 0.09% Sterling NIS 5.0294 - 0.52% Mark NIS 2.1428 - 0.29%

Alcatel, Lagardere plan separate bids for Thomson

PARIS (Reuter) - French industrial giants Lagardere and Alcatel Alsthom said yesterday they would each bid for state electronics firm Thomson, but signaled they are not prepared to pay any

The chairman of Lagardere, whose businesses span missiles to magazines, told shareholders it is "not a matter of life or death" whether the company succeeds in acquiring Thomson's defense electronics business, Thomson-

Alcatel Alsthom chairman Serge Tchuruk told his shareholders the group would bid for Thomson, but would take care not to end up weakened by an acquisition.

The government said in February it would privatize Thomson, which is 76 percent directly owned by the state and 20% held by state-owned France Telecom, as part a consolidation of the French defense industry.

Thomson controls 58% of the listed defense electronics company Thomson-CSF and 100% of Thomson Multimedia, a consumer electronics business.

French companies Sagem and Compagnie des Signaux have also expressed interest in Thomson, but Alcatel is widely viewed as the favored candidate, as it is willing to buy all of Thomson. The government has said it wants to sell Thomson in one piece.

Lagardere Chairman Jean-Luc Lagardere reiterated he is interested only in Thomson-CSF and would sell Thomson Multimedia to Korea's Daewoo Corp.

"From the start, I've said we had no interest in Thomson Multimedia," he said. "We have found a partner, a Korean company, Daewoo, which is totally accepted by the authorities in the framework of this privatization."

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ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

Due to technical problems, the international stocks do not appear in today's paper.

Disney names Tarses president of ABC entertainment

LOS ANGELES (Reuter) - Walt Disney Co., seeking to boost ratings at its ABC television network, yesterday named former NBC programming executive Jamie Tarses as president of ABC Entertainment. Tarses' appointment takes ef-

fect next Tuesday. Disney said in a statement. In a related development, Dis-

ney promoted ABC Entertainment President Ted Harbert to the post of chairman, effective

The announcement, which had been widely expected, comes after weeks of negotiations between Disney, Harbert and Tarses, who was responsible for NBC's highly successful lineup of prime-time programs, including such hits as "Friends," "NewsRadio," "Mad About You" and

NBC is a unit of General Elec-

LONDON (Reuter) - Investors

who want their savings to back

so-called "green" energy projects

in Britain will from next week be

able to open a specially-designed

bank account backed by environ-

mental pressure group Friends of

Friends of the Earth and the

Bristol-based independent Trio-

dos Bank have announced the

launch of the Earth Saver Ac-

count, which aims to promote

sustainable energy and prevent

enable people to help combat cli-

mate change by directing their

savings to renewable energy and

energy conservation projects in

the UK," the two organizations

Savers will earn interest rates

of up to 5.5 percent gross per

annum and Friends of the Earth

has itself opened an account with

"The Earth Saver Account will

global climate change.

said in a statement.

the Earth.

As chairman, Harbert has overall responsibility for ABC Entertainment and will directly supervise the division's finance and business affairs, reporting to Robert Iger, president of ABC Inc. He will also oversee latenight programming and the network's production ventures, including its relationship with DreamWorks SKG, Brillstein-Grey Communications and Jim

Henson Productions. Tarses will be responsible for developing and scheduling all prime-time entertainment programming, including comedy and drama series, movies, miniseries, concept and variety specials. She

will report to Harbert. Determining how Tarses and Harbert would work together had been a key sticking point in the negotiations. Tarses, who has been on leave from NBC since

Friends of the Earth opens

'green' energy bank account

will be marketed to individuals,

charities, businesses and ethical

Glen Saunders, managing di-

rector of Triodos Bank, said the

account would enable it to lend to

more green energy projects and demonstrates the bank's core pol-

icy of transparency of its

Friends of the Earth says the

account offers a practical way of

taking action to promote green

"Saving with Triodos Bank-

's...account makes sound envi-

ronmental and financial sense.

Friends of the Earth urges savers

to transfer their savings to this

account," Dr. Patrick Green, the

"The whole point of this is to

support projects which are envi-

investment funds.

a £200,000 deposit. The product nancially viable," Green told

group's senior energy campaigner far meant there was a substantial

ronmentally sustainable and fi- be made more available.

February, had sought a certain amount of autonomy, particularly on programming decisions. However, Harbert wanted the title of chairman to be more than iust an honorary post.

"These moves enable ABC to benefit from Ted's diverse network experience over many years and Jamie's creative programming skills," Iger said in a statement. "We are confident that Ted and Jamie will provide the kind of strong and effective leadership we need in order to strengthen ABC's prime-time performance."

ABC, which had dominated the all-important prime-time ratings period for years, slipped to second place this season and third place in the critical May ratings period.

Disney stock was up 50 cents, to close at \$61.625 on the New York Stock Exchange.

Reuters in an interview, adding

that the bank would not be taking

financial risks with savers'

Green said the impact of cli-

mate change means the needs of

the environment and the econo-

my cannot be separated and

Friends of the Earth is looking at

ways of increasing investment in

While the group wants the gov-

ernment to do a lot more to sup-

port such energy sources, it is also

pursuing other ways of diverting

investment away from fuels such as coal, gas and oil which produce

Green said lack of investment

in the renewable energy field so

untapped business opportunity in

terms of innovation and new

products for which finance should

so-called greenhouse gases.

renewable energy in Britain.

Oil imports drive up April US trade gap

WASHINGTON (Renter) - The is rapidly emerging as the most US trade shortfall with the rest of the world climbed in April, because of a surge in costly oil imports, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

Total imports and exports set records as the monthly deficit swelled 7.7 percent to \$8.63 billion from a revised \$8.01b. in March. The bilateral gaps in trade with China, Canada, and Mexico widened sharply.

"Oil was the big villain that more than explained the increase in the monthly figure," commented Robert Dederick, economic consultant to Northern Trust Co. in Chicago.

Crude petroleum imports shot up 31.3 percent in value during April to \$4,32b. - the highest for any month since November 1990. when they totaled \$4.7b.

The cost of imported crude jumped to \$19.33 a barrel from \$17.33 in March. Department officials said it was the highest price in more than five years, since it hit \$22.98 in January 1991.

Analysts said oil companies were replenishing their inventories in April. Consumers already have felt the bite of higher gasoline prices at the pump, but some relief is foreseen as more oil

comes onto the world market. imports of all types of goods and services grew 1.7 percent in April to \$78.57b., while exports expanded by 1 percent to \$69.94b.

Commerce Secretary Mickey Kantor said the trend for exports was higher on a year-over-year basis and he noted that the April deficit with Japan actually eased 0.2 percent in April to \$4.1b.

But at a briefing after the monthly report was released, Kantor said the trade deficit with China was mounting too fast at a rate of about 7 percent a year. "A seven percent growth is not something we would like," Kan-

In April alone, the US shortfall on trade with China shot up 29 percent from March's total to \$2.34b. Many analysts say China

troublesome Asian trade partner for the United States, replacing Japan, though numerous US-Japan trade trouble spots also persist and are under nearly constant negotiation.

Earlier this week the Clinton administration announced it reached an agreement with China under which Beijing will curb copyright piracy. That averted a trade war that would have imposed sanctions on \$2b. worth of Chinese textiles, electronics, and agricultural goods. China had promised to slap sanctions on American exports.

Previously, the department said the March deficit was \$8.92b., but it revised that downward. Analysts said the April trade report underlined the resilience of the US economy that fosters imports, because jobs are plentiful and incomes are

"In the long run, what it does show is that the decline in the US trade deficit is slow," said Ron Leven, global markets strategist with JP Morgan Securities Inc. in

New York. In a separate report, Commerce said the broader current account balance of trade ballooned to \$35,59b, in the first three months this year from \$30.44b. in the fourth quarter last

Current account includes changes not only in goods and services balances that are measated by the monthly trade report, but also trends in investment flows and in government transfer payments like foreign

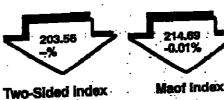
Fresh confirmation that the manufacturing sector was gaining renewed vigor came from the regional Federal Reserve bank in Philadelphia, which said its index of economic activity jumped in June to 25.6 from 16 in May.

Orders were strong and shipments on the rise yet the inajority of manufacturers said their prices were unchanged in a sign that inflation pressures remain muted.

Stocks unchanged while new gov't takes hold

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

FELICE MARANZ



STOCK indexes were unchanged

yesterday, as investors apparently decided to first get a feel for the direction and policies of the The Maof Index fell 0.01 per-

ed Index was unchanged at The indexes rose nearly one percent this week, amid optimism that newly appointed Finance Minister Dan Meridor would be

able to reduce expenditures and

cent, to 214.69, and the Two-Sid-

inflation. In the days ahead, investors will be looking for indications of how Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's government will act, including allocating the budget and pushing ahead with the peace process, said analysts.

"There's a lot of indecision within the government right now," said Oren Meytes, a senior analyst at Central Securities of

Tel Aviv. "The market will react to political news."

Of 990 shares trading across the exchange yesterday, eight shares fell for every five that rose. Some NIS 59.5 million worth of shares changed hands, NIS 5.4m. below yesterday's level and about NIS 10m. below last week's average trading level.

Maof Index-listed Clal Electronics, the most active share on the exchange, fell 1.75%, following declines in ECI Telecommunications' shares traded in New York.

Clal Electronics owns 26% of ECI, which fell to 21 15/16 on Wednesday, from 23 on Tuesday. ECI does not trade in Tel Aviv.

Investors are expecting an interest rate increase when the central bank sets monetary policy for the month of July, because of last month's 1.7% rise in the consum er price index. (Bloomberg).

London market down for third straight day

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuter) - Here is for business. The main focus was how major stock markets outside the US closed yesterday.

LONDON - UK shares

dropped for a third day running, dragged lower by weak futures markets and with European bourses suffering from German money supply figures suggesting Bundesbank rate cuts may be over. The FTSE 100 index closed near the day's low, down 25.7 points at 3,727.5, with losers outnumbering gainers by some three

FRANKFURT - Shares ended lower, dragged down after a disappointing M3 money supply report undermined hopes for another cut in interest rates. The 30share DAX index closed down above the intraday low of 2,537.16. Building shares were among the biggest losers for the second day. The index extended its losses in post-bourse IBIS computer dealings, ending the day at 2,532.22.

PARIS - Stocks closed more than one percent down, breaking of a recent narrow trading range, in a fall triggered by strongerthan-expected German M3 growth. The blue-chip CAC-40 index ended 23.62 points weaker at 2,077.08.

ZURICH - Shares closed slightly higher in moderate volume as technical factors and Friday's Soffex-expiry set the tone

on Novartis-shares, Ciba and Sandoz. The broad SPI firmed 7.11 points to 2,361,55 points. TOKYO - Stocks closed slight-

ly higher after recouping sharp losses suffered from fears that the Bank of Japan might raise its discount rate soon. Prices were pushed back up later by strong demand to buy on price dips. The key 225-share Nikkei average closed up 69,94 points or 0.31% at 22,437,30.

HONG KONG - The stock market was closed for a public holiday and will reopen tomorrow. On Wednesday, the bluechip Hang Seng Index eased 48.31 points or 0.44% to end at 10,904.47.

SYDNEY their morning gains to close on a strong note, supported by solid buying for market bellwether BHP as it regained ground lost on profit downgrades and copper price volatility. The All Ordinaries index finished 15.30 points higher at 2248.50.

JOHANNESBURG - Shares ended weak but off their lows in lackluster trading, with industrials dented by a lack of interest and a predominance of sellers and golds down on a dull bullion price. The overall index finished 24.5 points down at 6,839, the industrial index was off 37.6 points at 8,106 and the gold index lost 29.4 points to 1,803.2.

Dow closes lower amid computer worries

industrial average rose 11.08 points to close at 5,659.43, but that was down from an openingbell jump of more than 31 points.

sues outnumbering advancers by

Trading was mostly quiet again, although volume picked up considerably as traders positioned themselves for Friday's expiration of options contracts to buy and sell stocks and stockrelated securities at specific prices. Otherwise, new buying was restrained amid the prevailing jitters about inflation and a possible interest rate hike by the Federal Reserve.

echnical wr

Bonds, moved lower after the Philadelphia branch of the Federal Reserve reported that business activity have continued to accelerate for manufacturers in the mid-Atlantic region in June.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

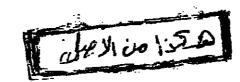
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STERLING	2.3442/52	_	186,40/52	1.9318/35	7.9440ri2	
YEN	1.4076/95	0.6004/11	_	1.1602/19	4.7709/81	
SFr	121 <i>.26</i> /38	0.5172/7B	86.10/15	_	4.1099/46	
FFr .	0.2949/52	0.1258/59	20.92/97	0.2430/33	····· —	
	·			Priore from 33:00 tassi time		

WALL STREET REPORT pany indexes fared better.

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks closed mostly lower with bonds yesterday as technology issues tumbled again amid growing worries about computer-industry On Wall Street, the Dow Jones

Most broader measures finished negative, with declining is-

a wide margin, and the technol-ogy-heavy Nasdaq sliding for the sixth straight session on concerns about slack demand in computerrelated businesses. Like the Dow, blue-chip and larger-com-



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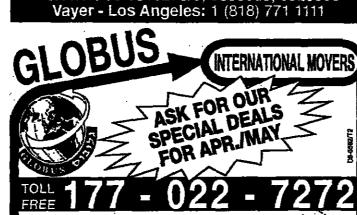
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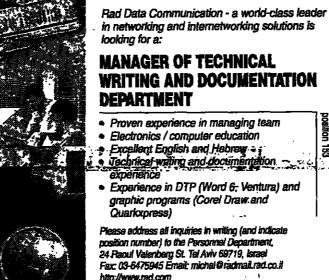
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JERUSALEM

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HAIFA

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Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate,

Tel Aviv: Briut, 28 King George, 528-

Ra'anana-Ktar Sava: Doron, 6 Geula,

Netanya: Neot Shaked, Ezorim Commercial Center, 352484.

Krayot area: Krayot, 1 Hahagana, Kiryat

Halfa: Kiryat Eliezer, 6 Mayerhoff Sq.

Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6

Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to

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Jerusalem: (day) Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A, 3 Avigdon, 706860; (evening) Center Pharm, Har Hahotzvim, 889744;

(day and evening) Balsam, Salah e-Din,

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Saturday, June 22

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3731; Ahva, 165 Dizengoff, 522-4717.

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Bialik, 872-1665.

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midnight

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ART GUIDE **JERUSALEM**

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Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana

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(English) in most parts of the country. In

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n: Shaare Zedek (internal, pedi-

midnight.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Saturday, June 22

POLICE

FIRST AID

Magen David Adom

FIRE

Friday, June 21

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GENERAL ASSISTANCE Beit Shamesh 523133 Petah Tikvar 9311111 Dan Region* 5793333 Rehovot* 451333

Saled 920333

Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-

6961113), Haifa 8672222, Beersheba 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 9988410, Kfar Sava 974555, Hadera

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Dan Region* 5793333 Haita* 8512233 Jerusalem* 523133

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Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusa 255558, Haifa 8660111, Ellet 31977.

022-1906, Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 2

p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Emergency line for women in distress

Hedassah/Jerusalem Municipal Health Center for Adolescents, 6 Chile St., Kiryat Hayovel, Jim. Advice by phone 02-

Wizo hotilines for battered women 02-6514111, 03-5461133 (also in Russian), 07-376310, 08-550506 (also in Amharic) Kupat Holim Information Center 177-

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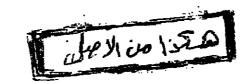
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Israeli

Arab leaders

call for

meeting with

Netanyahu

DAVID RUDGE

Senate bill would force US to refer to Jerusalem as capital

THE US government may have to begin referring to Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

An amendment to the 1997 Senate foreign appropriations bill states that as of the next fiscal year, which begins in October, "all official US publications shall refer to Jerusalem as Israel's capital,

The amendment would presumably affect maps, charts, and other documents available to the public.

The bill will be considered next week by the full Appropriations Committee. The House passed its foreign aid bill last week, but it did not include the Jerusalem provision.

Also yesterday, Israeli and

(Continued from Page 1)

the first to reach a breakthrough

for peace with the Arab world,

with the 1979 Egyptian-Israeli

treaty of peace. We have kept our

obligations since Camp David

and Madrid [the 1991 peace con-

ference]. We extend our hands to

In yesterday's Saudi-backed

newspaper, Netanyahu's foreign

policy adviser, Dore Gold, was

to implement agreements ... The

Israeli commitment is directly

linked to the PA commitment to

Netanyahu held his first diplo-

matic briefing yesterday with se-

lected ministers and other top ad-

visers. Much of the two-hour

session was devoted to a regional

overview given by Gold, which

was apparently designed in part

to ensure that the ministers pre-

sent, including Foreign Minister

commitment from others.

momentum for peace."

agreed."

HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON

American defense officials began two days of meetings at the Pentagon to finalize a memorandum of agreement on joint production of the Nautilus anti-missile

Plans to develop the laser system were announced on April 28 during prime minister Shimon Peres's visit here. Defense Secretary William Perry said then that he expected testing to be con-

ducted in Israel by late next year. Defense experts said that Congress is expected to support funding for the Nautilus funding, which will cost the US \$50 million

A Washington Times story said that at the meetings, the Pentagon will also raise questions about what they say is Israel's supply of US avionics technology

The technology transfer, which would benefit the development of China's F-10 fighter plane, allegedly occurred during the produc-tion in the late 1980s of the Lavi

A US official said a report on the matter would be presented to the Israeli team,

"By presenting this paper to Israel, we will be giving them one last opportunity to answer our repeated concerns," the paper

SUMMIT

David Levy and Finance Minister should honor international Dan Meridor, were updated on agreements. We expect a similar changes in the Arab world during the last few years. "Our Likud government was

Informed sources also say they expect Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert to participate in such sessions in the future, due to diplomatic sensitivities surrounding Jerusalem and his senior position in the Likud. Defense Minister our neighbors to maintain the Yitzhak Mordechai was not invited to yesterday's meeting, but is expected to be invited once conand London-based Al-Hayat sultations have a more operation-

quoted as saying, "There is a commitment by this government Sources say that, in departure from past practice, senior military officers will not be invited to diplomatic consultations. The officers will first be part of operaimplement what has been tional consultations led by Mordechai, then afterwards the conceptual and operational discussions will be merged, with all sides attending follow-up operational consultations headed by the prime minister.

> In his first meeting with an Arab envoy since he took office, Netanyahu met yesterday with

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Jordanian Ambassador Omar Rifai. The Jordanian leadership held many meetings with Netanyahu before his election, and Jordan's is the only Arab government to express confidence he will continue the peace process.

Rifai refused to comment on the meeting, except to say he is confident the new government is "very committed to peace. He made clear that his country will put forward a conciliatory tone in Cairo so other Arabs will allow him some time to move forward on the way to a comprehensive

On a related note, senior officials in Jerusalem pointed out that despite all the fiery statements about Israel emerging from Damascus over the past week, the meetings of the monitoring group in Washington to discuss security arrangements in southern Lebanon involved a Syrian official meeting with Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich. who, at least temporarily, represents the Netanyahu government.

Marilyn Henry contributed to this 300



Thai Labor Minister Prasong Boonpong takes a close look yesterday at the work conditions of his compatriots in Rishon Lezion. There are about 5,000 Thai construction workers here (Yisrael Hadan)

YELTSIN

(Continued from Page 1) Yevstavyev had been carried out on the orders of Korzhakov and Barsukov.

Chubais said the arrests were aimed at preventing the runoff between Yeltsin and communist Gennady Zynganev; expected to take place on July 3, and amounted to a coup attempt.

Yeltsin, quoted by Interfax. declined to link the dismissals to the overnight arrests, but said it was time to bring in "fresh people."

"They were taking too much out and giving back too little," Yeltsin said, referring to all three. "I am being reproached over Korzhakov and Soskovets. Do I have to work for them?" he asked querulously.

The move against the three followed Yeltsin's appointment on Tuesday of law-and-order general Alexander Lebed as a new security supremo inside the Kremlin. It was not immediately clear what role, if any, Lebed had played in the dismissal of the

three hawks. Korzhakov, his 46-year-old personal bodyguard and friend and a former KGB general, was at the core of the group of hardliners gathered round the president.

The bull-like Korzhakov had made several public statements contradicting official policy and carning him a Yeltsin rebuke. But he emerged unscathed and earned the sinister reputation in the liberal press of being a "grey eminence" behind Yeltsin.

Barsukov, a close friend of

Korzhakov, was appointed by Yeltsin to head the Federal Security Service (FSB) - successor to the KGB - in July 1995. Television footage showed that Barsukov was present at Thurs-

day's meeting of the National Security session. Soskovets, 47, was in charge of heavy industry and represented

the military-industrial complex in the government. Effectively No. 3 in the state

and government hierarchy after Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, Soskovets traveled widely with the president abroad. Sacking Your Special Life Partner? International Jewish Connections. Israel & Abroad - 15 Years of Experience

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HEBRON

(Continued from Page 1)

Therefore, he said, it would be possible to transfer civilian powers to the Palestinian Authority, and to permit the Palestinians a lightly armed police force with which to carry out these powers. lice force should be a local one, rather than one belonging to PA President Yasser Arafat, he said,

"Which police force [operates] there is important, but it isn't critnot only because this would be ical. The critical issue is that the preferable for the Jewish resi-IDF must be able to go wherever dents, but also because the city's it wishes." Arab residents do not want Ara-David Wilder, an spokesman, took a harder line.

"I have had immumerable conversations with Arabs who said they celebrated [Prime Minister because they hope he would save them from Arafat," Ha'etzni told The Jerusalem Post. He said he has heard such sentiments even

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Hebron spokesman Noam Arnon did not reject Ha'etzni's "Our opinion is a little differdo."

doing what they're supposed to

from members of Arafat's own

fat in control.

Fatah faction.

ent, but it's a matter of mances,'

The residents' preferred solution, he said, is still for Hebron to continue to be in Area C, where Israel has sole control.

"But if [changes] must happen, the main thing is that the DF for security in the city," he said.

"After having seen four people murdered within the last month and a half ... I think it's very clear Binyamin] Netanyahu's victory, that the terrorism hasa't stopped, and there is no reason we should allow more armed Palestinians to have authority," he said. "Arafat hasn't fulfilled anything on his side of the agreement. Obligations have to be fulfilled mutual ly. There is no reason for us to give them more when they're not

ISRAELI Arab council heads are calling for an urgent meeting with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyalm to ascertain the government's policies toward the Arab community.

The decision to press for a meeting with Netanyahu and the Interior and Finance ministers was taken at an extraordinary session of the forum of Arab council heads in Shfaram yesterday.

This follows expressions of concern in the Arab community over certain aspects of the government's guidelines, especially the clauses pledging to advance minorities who have joined their fate with the Jewish people and the State, and who have served in the security forces.

Ostensibly, the meeting of the council leaders was called to discuss the financial plight of the Arab local authorities, several of which are in dire straits. "The situation of the Arab

councils is very grave and we cannot continue this way," said Hus-sem Suleiman, spokesman for the He said the councils hoped that

the government, and Netanyahu in particular, would honor the previous government's promises to equalize the budgets of Arab and Jewish local authorities. Council leaders noted that Ne-

tanyahu had pledged to increase the budgets of Arab councils, and that the government would work towards ensuring equality for

"We have some reservations about some of the government's guidelines, but we hope it will work towards achieving full equality for all Arabs and will not try to divide the community into sectors and groups - like those who have served in the army," said Spleiman.

"We will meet with the prime minister, and we will judge him and the government on its deeds and not its declarations.

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IRAN

(Continued from Page 3) On one level, it is regarded as an attempt by Syria to "frighten its Arab partners" and strengthen raising the specter of Iran at this weekend's Arab summit in Cairo.

On another, more sinister level, it is viewed as a possible first step in a Syrian-Iranian initiative to make a rapprochement with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, if Syrian President Hafez Assad feels he is being comered within the region or marginalized by the United States with regard to the peace process.

According to the sources, a top Syrian official recently declared that Damascus would be prepared to make its peace with Saddam if this was necessary to thwart what Syria perceives to be Jordanian ambitions of achieving influence in a post-Saddam Iraq.

MOUNT

(Continued from Page 3) religious authority responsible for the Temple Mount, in attempt to assure Moslem officials that the government had no such plans.

In an interview on Palestinian Radio, Sabri said the "plan to divide Haram Al-Sharif [the Temple Mount] is evil. We will not allow it to happen."

"[Jerusalem's Moslem] residents are ready to fight this attempt by the extremist Jews and their government," Sabri said. "This is a red line, that if crossed will bring to an explosion not just in Jerusalem, but all over the Middle East."

Police, backed by the government and the courts, have long forbidden Jewish worship on the Mount, on grounds it would spark inrest. The National Religious Party, now a coalition partier, has called for ending this

"We will do whatever is necessary to prevent Jews from praying at Haram Al-Sharif," said Tahboub, in a statement published on the front page of the A-Nahar newspaper yesterday. Tahboub also called for the Arab world to help protect the site.

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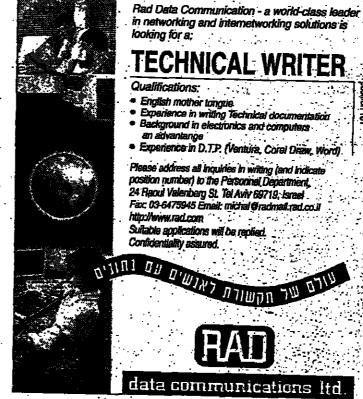
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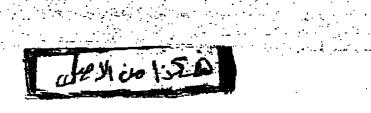
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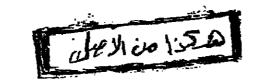
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MAN OF THE HOUR - Legendary cricket umpire Dickie Bird (waving) walks onto the pitch to a standing ovation at Lords to offi-

Thorpe and Russell rescue England

LONDON (Reuter) - A gritty, unbroken partnership of 131 between Graham Thorpe and Jack Russell rescued England from the brink of disaster and led them to a position of some strength at the close of the first day of the second Test against India at Lord's yester-

When bad light stopped play with 10 overs remaining, the two left-handers had taken England to 238 for five with Thorpe on 85 and Russell on 69.

On an absorbing day where the overcast conditions gave considerable help to the Indian bowlers, it marked a superb fightback. The pair had come together at 107 for five after England lost three wickets in the space of 18 balls in the afternoon session.

Thorpe was the most fluent of the English batsmen but he curbed his natural attacking instincts as he and Russell combined to frustrate the Indian bowlers who failed to make the most of the

As the partnership flourished so Russell became more dominant. While Thorpe was content for much of the time to push the quick single and keep his wicket intact for the second day Russell began to take advantage of some tired

His 50 came up off 88 balls and included five fours and shortly afterwards a classic straight drive off Venkatesh Prasad raised the century partnership.

In the end it proved a good day's work for England, who brought in seamer Peter Martin for the leftarm spin of Min Patel, but the Indians let themselves down.

Javagal Srinath and Prasad bowled well early on and beat the bat time after time. But the lack of depth in the attack, which led to too many balls that the batsmen did not have to play, and the indifferent form of leg-spinner Anil Kumble, let England off the

The day's play, which started half an hour late because of rain,

began with an emotional welcome on to the field for umpire Dickie Bird. Standing in his 66th and final Test, Bird had to wipe away his tears as he walked on through a guard of honour formed by the two teams at the bottom of the

Five balls later, Bird was in the thick of the action as he had no besitation in giving England captain Mike Atherton out Ibw to Javagal Srinath for nought. Alec Stewart and Nasser

Hussain then struggled to survive the morning session as the Indian seamers, relishing captain Mohammad Azharuddin's decision to field first, found plenty of movement through the air and off

However, they battled through to lunch and added 67 together before Stewart aimed a huge drive at Srinath and was bowled for 20. Thorpe took his place but when

the score had reached 98 the minicollapse began. First Hussain fell for 36, a maid-

G.Thorpe not out 85
G.Flick c Strineth b Ganguly 1
Lipung b Presed 1
Lipung to the strine to the str

as Vikram Rathore pulled off a

good catch at second slip at the

Graeme Hick made just one and

then gave Ganguly his second test

wicket when he spooned a simple

catch to Srinath at mid-off.

Ronnie Irani, who also managed

just a single, then showed Prasad

too many stumps and was bowled

behind his legs to leave England reeling at 107 for five.

second attempt.

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-67, 3-98, 4-102, 5-107.
To bat - D.Cork, C.Lawis, P.Martin, A.Maltary,
Bowling (to date): Srineth 22-6-51-2, Prasad 20-6-47-1, Mitambrey 15-1-55-0, Kurnbie 12-3-34-0,
Georguly 9-1-36-2, Tendulist 2-1-1-0.
India - V.Rathore, A.Ladeja, R.Dravid,
S.Tendulist, M.Azharuddin (captain), S.Ganguly,
N.Mongie, A.Kurnbie, J.Srinath, P.Mhambrey,
V.Prasad.

Debutant Croatia stands in Germany's way

England waits for Spain in quarter-finals

LONDON (AP) - With World Cup runner up Italy out of the way, Germany has become a stronger favorite than ever to win the European Championship for the third time.

Now the Germans have to get past a Croatian team making its debut and likely will meet host England in a semifinal at Wemblev

The all-round strength and vast experience of Germany should be too powerful on Sunday for the Croats, whose impressive 3-0 victory over defending titlist Denmark Sunday was countered by a loss by the same margin to Portugal three days later.

The toughest quarterfinal battle appears to be France-Netherlands at Anfield Sanurday where the French put their 26-game unbeat-en record on the line against a Dutch team burning to hit back from a stunning 4-1 loss to the

Portugal managed to convert their attractive, well-organized passing game into goals by downing the Croats and are rewarded with a game at Villa Park Sunday against the Czech Republic, who needed a last minute equalizer in a 3-3 against the Russians to eliminate powerhouse Italy.

Spain also needed a late clincher against already-eliminated Romania Tuesday to gain a quarterfinal place against England, which is getting stronger as each game goes by.

England is the highest scorer with seven goals from three games and Alan Shearer heads the individual scoring list with four.

TOMORROW'S GAMES ENGLAND vs. SPAIN At Wembley

After laboring to a 1-1 tie with the Swiss in the opening game of the championship, England lifted its per-formance with a 2-0 victory over the Scots and then demolished the Dutch 4-1 including a spell of three goals in 10 minutes. Goalkeeper David Seaman is in standout form, saving a penalty against the Scots and making two more stunning blocks in other games. Strikers Shearer and Sheringham are deadly in front of goal and are getting good service. Paul Ince will miss the game against Spain because of two yellow cards. Bookmakers: 3-1 second favorite for

Scorers: Shearer (4), Sheringham (2), Gascoigne. Yellow cards: Ince (2), Paul Adams, Gary Neville, Shearer, Sheringham, Gareth Southgate.

Spain has ground its way to the last eight with three unimpressive perfor-mances, 1-1 ties with Bulgaria and France and a 2-1 victory over the Romanians. But with Barcelona's Miguel Angel Nadal back to bolster the midfield after missing two games through suspension, the team looks better balanced. Bookmakers: 12-1. Scorers: Jose Luis Caminero, Alfonso Perez, Javier Manjarin,

Guillermo Amor. Red card: Juan Antonio Pizzi. Yellow cards: Caminero, Sergi

Barjuan, Amor, Abelardo Fernandez, Luis Emique, Jose Emilio Amavisca, Jorge Otero, Kiko Narvaez, Nadal

FRANCE VS. NETHERLANDS At Antield

The French have looked better each game after edging Romania 1-0, tying 1-1 with Spain and then outplaying Bulgaria 3-1. Youri Djorkaeff has been an important provider of goal chances while Laurent Blanc and Marcel Desailly have appeared almost immovable at the back. Bookmakers:

Scorers: Christophe Dugarry, Djorkaeff, Blanc, Patrice Loko and an Yellow cards: Eric De Meco, Blanc, Christian Karembeu. Djorkaeff,

Desailly, Dugarry.

The Dutch are blowing hot and cold. They should have beaten the Scots 4-0 but missed their chances for a 0-0 tie. A 2-0 victory over Switzerland made up for that but coach Guus Hiddink kicked talented midfielder Edgar Davids off the squad for crudely criticizing him in front of the media. Then came a 4-1 loss at Wembley when the Dutch defense simply melted in the heat Ironically,

Partick Kluivert's goal in that game squeezed the Dutch through. Bookmakers: 8-1 and drifting. Scorers: Jordi Cruyff, Dennis Bergkamp, Kluivert. Yellow cards: Richard Witschge, Gaston Taument, Clarence Seedorf,

SUNDAY'S GAMES GERMANY VS. CROATIA

Aron Winter, Danny Blind,

Despite the loss of defender Juergen Kohler and midfielder Mario Basler, who have gone home injured, the Germans seem to have a deep reserve of talent. After cruising to 2-0 and 3-0 victories over the Czechs and Russians, they were generally out-

saved a penalty, to thank for the tie. They always knew, however, that even a low-scoring loss to the Italians would have put them through. Thomas Stronz misses the game against Croatia because of a red card against Italy and defender Thomas Helmer, who had a standout perfor-mance against the Italians, is very doubtful because of a knee injury. Bookmakers: 7-4 favorite.

Goalscorers: Juergen Klinsmann (2), Christian Ziege, Andreas Moeller, Matthias Sammer.

Red card: Strunz. Yellow cards: Markus Babbel (2), Stefan Reuter, Thomas Haessler, Moeller, Stefan Kunz, Ziege, Bierhoff.

The Croats showed truly rich potential in the 3-0 victory over the Danes when Davor Suker scored a memorable, lobbed goal over Peter Schmeichel and Znonimir Boban and Aljosa Asanovic tore the Danish defense apart. Against Portugal, their own defense suffered alarming lapses which the Germans will exploit. Bookmakers: 14-1 (drifting from 8-1 before the quarterfinal matchups were

Scorers: Suker (2), Goran Vlaovic,

Yellow cards: Asanovic, Boban, Znonimir Soldo, Mario Stanic, Robert Prosinecki, Vlaovic, Igor Pamic, Robert Jami, Dubrayko Pavlicic.

CZECH REP. vs. PORTUGAL

A 2-1 upset victory over the Italians meant the Czechs didn't have to pack their bags early. Then came a 3-3 tie with the Russians which involved a spectacular mid-game slump from 2-0 up to 3-2 down followed by a 'ree rally for the equalizer. The Czechs are expert finishers but will be tested by Portugal's talented midfielders Bookmakers: 16-1 outsider.

Scorers: Pavel Nedved, Radek Bejbl, Jan Suchoparek, Pavel Kuka, Vladimir Smicer.

Yellow cards: Miroslav Kadlec (2) Nedved (2), Radek Drulak, Bejbl Kuka, Suchoparek, Jozef Nemec.

It took Portugal time to show its true class but the goals against the Crosts promised there are more to come. The Portuguese have talent throughout the team from goalkeeper Vitor Baia, defender Fernando Couto, midfielders Rui Costa and Paulo Sousa to strikers Luis Figo and Joao Pinto. Bookmakers: 10-1. Scorers: Ricardo Sa Pinto,

Fernando Couto, Luis Figo, Joao Pinto, Domingos Oliveira. Yellow cards: Paulinho Santos (2), Oceano da Cruz, Sa Pinto, Pinto,

Bulls sign coach to new contract Smoltz chalks up 14th straight win

year contract valued at \$2 million, according to broadcast reports yesterday.

Signing Jackson, who has coached the Bulls to four championships in the past six years, including the just-concluded series win over the Seattle SuperSonics, secures the leader that superstar Michael Jordan said he would not play without.

Team owner Jerry Reinsdorf will likely pay considerably more to get Jordan - the 33-year-old, freeagent, all-everything guard - back in the fold. Jordan,

DEERFIELD, III. (Renter) - The NBA champion who has been quoted as saying be deserves \$18m to Chicago Bulls re-signed coach Phil Jackson to a one- \$20m per season up from around \$4m currently, has said he would not stay in Chicago without Jackson. Another key ingredient of the team's success this season, madcap rebounder Dennis Rodman, was also adamant about playing for Jackson and planned on asking for \$7m to \$10m per season in his new con-

> The team was expected to have a news conference announcing Jackson's signing yesterday afternoon at its training centre in the Chicago suburb of Deerfield. SPORTS BRIEFS
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ATLANTA (AP) – John Smoltz set a franchise record with his 14th straight win, a two-hitter in a 5-1 victory over the San Diego Padres that gave the Atlanta Braves a sweep of the three-game series.

He retired the first 19 Padres, losing his bid for a prefect game when Chris Gomez doubled with one out in the seventh inning.

Smoltz (14-1) lost to San Francisco in his first start of the year April 4, but not since. He is the first National Leaguer to win 14 in a row since Dwight Gooden did it in 1985 with the New York

Five other Braves - most recently Tom Glavine, in 1992 - bad won 13 in a row.

Smoltz and Chipper Jones, who had a homer while extending his hitting streak to a career-high 11 games, had two RBIs apiece for the Braves.

Gomez, playing in his first game for San Diego since being obtained from Denoit on Tuesday, doubled down the third-base line and scored on a single by Tony Gwynn. Smoltz, who has pitched at least

seven innings in 11 of his 16 starts, struck out eight and didn't walk a batter. He also singled in the first run in the fifth inning off Bob Tewksbury (5-5) and added a second RBI with a sacrifice fly in the sixth. Smoltz is 3-0 against San Diego

this year and 6-0 since June of 1993.

Cardinals 3, Phillies 2 Brian Jordan made a game-saving catch in the top of the ninth inning. then doubled and scored in the bottom half as host St. Louis picked up its

fifth straight victory.

Andy Benes (4-8) pitched a five-hitter for his second complete game.

Jordan, the Cardinals' right fielder, prevented the Phillies from scoring when he made a diving catch of pinch hitter Glenn Murray's sinking liner with the bases loaded to end the immig. He then doubled against Ricky Bottalico (2-3) with one out in the bot-tom of the ninth, and scored on a bases-

loaded sacrifice fly by Luis Alicea. On the day that shortstop Ozzie Smith announced he was retiring at the end of the season, the Cardinals kept up their recent surge with 18 vic-NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division

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40 30 .571 4

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GREAT BALLS OF FIRE - Atlanta's pitching ace John Smoltz throws another high hard one during Wednesday's game. (Reuser)

tories in 26 games overall. They also topped 500 for the first time since April 25, and took a one-game lead over Houston in the NL Central. Dodgers 4, Cabs 3 Winning pitcher Chan Ho Park -

batting because visiting Los Angeles was out of position players - drew a decisive bases-loaded walk in the 13th mning.
With two outs against Terry Adams (2-2), Chad Fonville walked, Billy

Ashley reached on a fielding error by third baseman Leo Gomez and Delino DeShields was intentionally walked. Park, who was 1-for-12, drew a walk on a 3-1 count to force in Fonville. Park (5-2) allowed one-hit in three innings. Todd Worrell pitched the 13th for his league-leading 22nd save.

The Dodgers tied the game at 3-3 in the eighth when Delino DeShields reached on a fielder's choice and scored one out later on Mike Piazza's

WEDNESDAY'S NL RESULTS: Atlanta 5, San Diego 1
St. Lonis 3, Philadelphia 2
Los Angeles 4, Chicago 3 (13)
Cincinnati 10, Houston 7
Colorado 7, Montreal 6 (10) Pittsburgh 6, New York 5 (1st) New York 5, Pittsburgh 3 (2nd) San Francisco 7, Florida 4 (15)

Luis Gonzalez went 3-for-3 with a two-run double for the Cubs. Pirates 6, Mets 5 (1st) Mets 5, Pirates 3 (2nd)

In Pittsburgh, Bernard Gilkey bit a two-run homer off rookie closer Francisco Cordova, and New York pulled off its first winning ninthinning rally this season to split a dou-bleheader with Pittsburgh. The Mets' comeback - they had

been 0-33 when trailing after eight imings - mined Pittsburgh's bid for its first doubleheader sweep of New York since September 8, 1990. With Pittsburgh leading 3-2, Lance Johnson singled off Cordova (2-5) in the ninth shead of Gilkey's 14th homer. Jeff Kent followed with a double, and Chris Jones' run-scoring sin-

gle made it 5-3. Dave Mlicki (3-3) pitched the eighth for his second win in the series, and John Franco finished for his 15th

WEDNESDAY'S AL RESULTS: Minnesota at New York (ppd., rain)
Onkland 10, Detroit 3 Kansas City 8, Milwaukee 4 (10) California 14, Chicago 2 Texas 3. Raitimore 2 (1st) Texas at Baltimore (2nd, ppd., rain) Cleveland 11, Boston 4

Toronio 9, Scattle 2

Isringhausen put New York up 5-2 with a two-run homer, only to help give the lead back with two throwing errors in Pittsburgh's two-run sixth. With the Mets ahead 5-4 in the eighth, Orlando Merced and Hayes singled and Isringhausen walked

Mike Kingery to load the bases.

Doug Henry got Jay Bell to hit into a force-play grounder, but Jason Kendall singled to left field, tagging Isringhausen (3-9) with his seventh

AMERICAN LEAGUE A's 10, Tigers 3
Rookie John Wasdin gave up six hits over eight innings, and visiting Oakland hit three homers to complete a three-game sweep of Detroit.

Jason Giambi and Terry Steinbach homered and drove in three runs apiece, and Phil Plantier had a solo shot as Oakland finished a 7-7 mad trip with its fourth straight victory on

Tony Clark's three-run homer in the seventh accounted for the Detroit

scoring.
Wasdin (4-1) had a one-hitter, retiring 21 of 22 batters, and held an 8-0 lead before giving up three hits -including Clark's third homer - in the seventh. The 23-year-old right-hander, making his eighth start, struck out a career-high five batters. The A's supported him with a 15-hit

attack that also included four doubles and a triple.

Greg Keagle (3-5), filling in for scheduled starter Greg Gohr, allowed seven runs on 10 hits with a walk and two strikeouts in six innings.
Oakland outscored Detroit 26-12 in the series and outhomered the Tigers

Royals 8, Brewers 4 Sal Fasano's homer off lose Mercedes broke a 4-4 tie in the 10th inning, and Kevin Lockhart added two-run triple for visiting Kansas

City.

Lockhart's triple came after shortstop Jose Valentin muffed a potential inning-ending double play. Then Craig Paquette added an RBI double. Mercedes gave up four runs, three of them earned, on three hits in two-

thirds of an inning.

Fasano singled and scored the tying run in the eighth when Graeme Lloyd grooved an 0-2 fastball that pinch-hirter Kevin Young hit into center field for a single.

Ripolito Pichardo (3-3) picked up the victory with two scoreless innings.

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Boston	29	40	.420	11			
Detroit	18	53	.254	23			
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Cleveland	45	24	.652	_			
Chicago	41	28 35 35	.594	4 11 111/5			
Milwaukee	34	35	.493	11			
Minnesota	34 33	35	.485	111/5			
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Oakland	33	33 38	.485	6 101/2			

Renault to withdraw from **Grand Prix**

PARIS (Reuter) - Renault, the French car manufacturer whose engines have powered Williams and Benetton teams to the last four constructors' world championships, announced yesterday they are to withdraw from Formula One at the end of 1997. Renault's decision will spark a

major battle for new engine suppliers among the top teams. Japanese car builder Honda is widely expected to return to formula one. Renault made their announcement in Paris where Renault sport

president Patrick Faure confirmed one of Formula One's hottest rumors of recent weeks. In a statement, Renault said it had set itself the goal of adding

another world title to the seven it has already won. Since returning to Formula One with the Williams team in 1989, Renault has won four construc-

iors dues.				
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WHAT is said to be the biggest "Russian mafia" bust ever made here, part of an international case involving crimes ranging from forgery and prostitution to drug deals and murder, was revealed by the police yesterday.

Twenty-eight persons have been detained so far, and more arrests are expected, according to investi-



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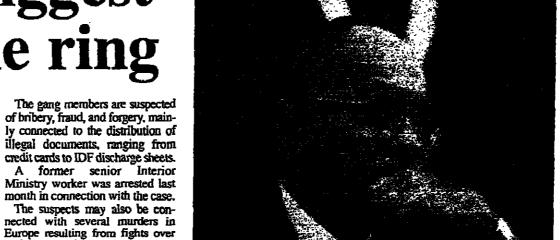
gations head Cmdr. Yossi Levy. Levy said most of those detained immigrants from the Commonwealth of Independent

Levy said the suspects, arrested over the past several weeks, are connected to an international crime ring based in Russia, that also operates in several European countries. Police in several European states helped the Israel Police's Serious Crimes Division in the investigation.

The suspects are part of "the first criminal ring connected to international crime in the CIS that has been uncovered here," said Levy. adding that the arrests "show that the police were correct last year in setting up a special unit to deal with international crime."

Police prefer the term "international crime" over "mafia," because the latter implies criminal activity that has penetrated the ruling establishment - which is not the case in Israel, but is allegedly the case in the CIS.

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Justice Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman at a ceremony yesterday for newly accredited lawyers, held at Jerusalem's Teddy Stadium.

Ne'eman: We must strive for justice, peace

JUSTICE and peace are the two values without which the world cannot exist, and which we must therefore strive for, Justice Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman said yesterday, in his first address as a minister.

Speaking at a ceremony for newly accredited lawyers, Ne'eman said the importance of the law in human life can be seen from the fact that administering justice is one of the seven Noachide laws which, according to the Torah, are incumbent upon all the nations of the world. However, he said, a legal system is not just the establishment of norms.

"It is not enough to set norms," he said. "These norms must be based on justice, righteousness and non-discrimination. The key to a proper system of law, he continued, is respect for human

dignity, since man was created in God's image. Israel's legal system gives expression to this value through the Basic Law: Human Dignity He then quoted Rashi's statement that "if there is no peace, there is

nothing at all. Therefore, peace is worth everything." "I wish for all of us that we will see peace in our day - peace among ourselves, and also peace with our enemies," he concluded.

Bodinger: Arab missiles pose potent threat

"THE most significant develop-ment in our region has been the obtaining of ground-to-ground missiles by Arab countries, including their ability to produce such missiles themselves," OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Herzl Bodinger said yesterday.

He was speaking at a news conference marking his taking leave of the air force after 35 years of service, the last four and a half as its commander.

Bodinger pointed to Iran and Syria as having the largest missile arsenals. He also cited Iraq. whose missile arsenal has supposedly been removed by internation-

al sanctions. For the first time since 1948, Arab countries have the ability to hit any point within Israel," he said, adding that this was proven during the Scud attacks of the Gulf War.

"If there were to be a total war against Israel," he said, "we would be hit by hundreds of ground-to-ground missiles." As to an answer to the problem,

the air force has greatly improved its ability to carry out long-range The most advanced F-15s, which will reach the air force

Bodinger said that in recent years,

within the next year, will increase this ability even more. Jerusalem Post Staff



Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Drop in temperatures. Shebbat: No change in ten



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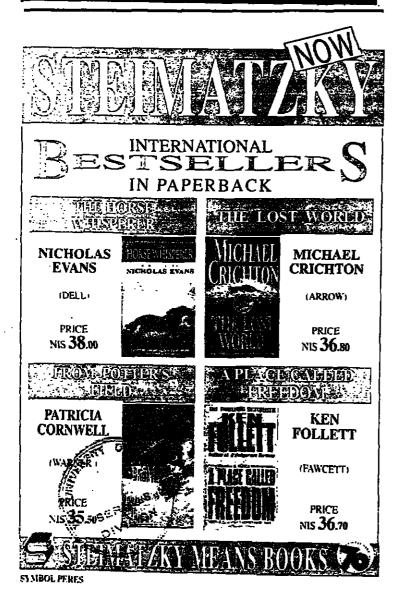
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also helping in the investigation. Kahalani: Separation plan will continue, depending on policy

INTERNAL Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said yesterday that he intends to continue with his predecessor's separation plan between Israel and the territories. "but with a few changes and dependent on government policy." Kahalani made the remark on his first official tour of the central dis-

turf among international crime

gangs. They are also suspected of

other criminal activity abroad,

including drug trading and prostitu-

tion, according to the Israel Police.

"We believe the gang uncovered here is just a small link in a larger

chain controlled in the CIS, and

which has connections all over

Police said the gang arranged

fictitious marriages with Israeli women from the CIS for CIS men

who wanted Israeli citizenship,

often for criminal purposes. New

immigrant women were paid

some \$2,000 to go abroad and

Russian criminals look to Israel

as a prime location for laundering

money, and having Israeli citizen-

ship makes it easier to operate

Dozens of men were granted

Israeli citizenship on the basis of

the fictitious marriages, and the

Interior Ministry is working with

police to find those involved. The

Military Police and the Income

Tax and Customs authorities are

here, according to police.

Europe," Levy said.

marry the men.

was shown the plan initiated by predecessor Moshe Shahal. He said the area stretching around 70 kilo-Baka al-Gharbiya in the north.

trict's Green Line area, where he

he would continue with the plan in meters from Latrun in the south to

Starting off in the incomplete settlement of Matan, where around 45 families have settled some 100 meters from the Arab village of Habla, Kahalani was. given detailed explanations of the area's problems.

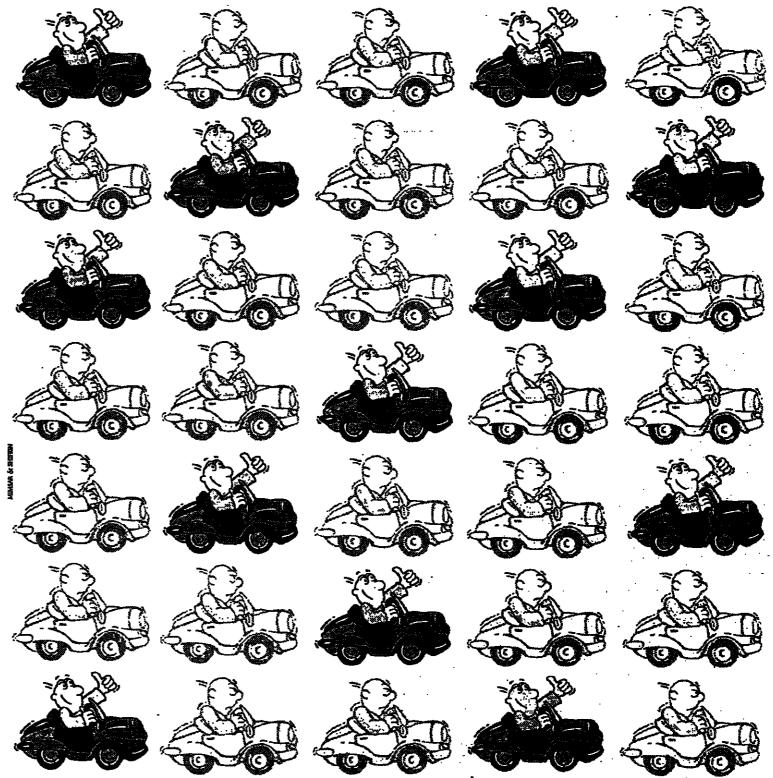
A three-meter-high, 11-kilometer-long wall is to be erected between Habla and Matan, on top of which will be a fence, equipped with electronic sensors and cameras to avoid any conflict between the two sides and to prevent infil-

"The concept of separation is a correct one but the plan depends on government policies," said Kahalani. "Terror will not stop in the near future, but we must have a system of monitoring and control and provide police with the necessary means to operate."

Two other potential trouble

spors have been designated for similar fencing: Bat Hefer and

near Kalkilya. Regarding the closure of the territories. Kahalani said that from "a humanitarian point of view, the sealing of the territories should be eased to give the Palestinians an opportunity to work in Israel."



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